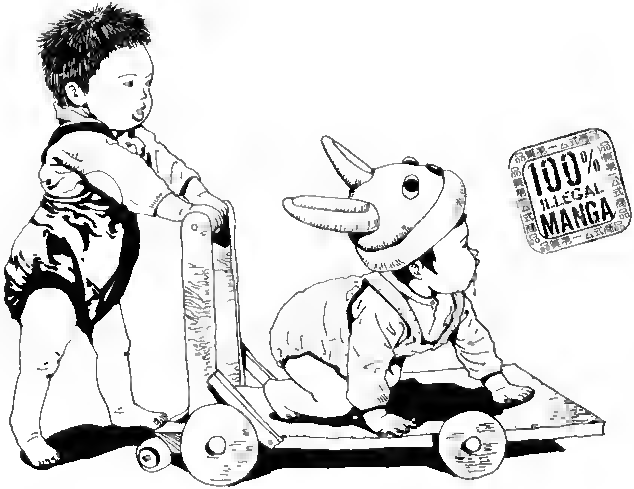

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BLACK & WHITE 2

BLACK & WHITE VOL. 2

MEAN KIDS PRACTICE RANDOM VIOLENCE AND SENSELESS ACTS OF UGLINESS ON THE MEAN STREETS.

Street urchins Black and White have skyscraper-sized chips on their shoulders, but are fiercely loyal to each other. White is a dimwitted innocent, Black a streetwise sinner, but both are violent as can be. Their days are spent robbing, rumbling, and running riot.

As a team, Black and White are virtually unbeatable. Which is why everyone who is out to get them—from yakuza gangsters to rival gangs to religious cults to the Treasure Town police—employs the same strategy of "divide and conquer." With varying degrees of success...

BLACK & WHITE

STORY AND ART BY TAIYO MATSUMOTO

PULP GRAPHIC NOVEL

vol. 2

STORY & ART BY
TAIYO MATSUMOTO

ENGLISH ADAPTATION BY
ANNETTE ROMAN & YUJI ONIKI

This volume contains the BLACK & WHITE serialments from PULP Vol 2 No 9 through Vol 3 No 7 in their entirety

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The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly

These two boys nicknamed the "cats" compliment each other's personalities perfectly

This homeless alcoholic has taken our anti-heroes under his wing. He is afraid of Black, who he believes personifies the evil of the city

Kimura is the underling of the "Rat" who answers to the Big Boss.

SKIRMISH 12 HERE, KITTY, KITTY

CAN I HAVE ONE?
KLIK
YOU SMOKE TOO MUCH.
FFFT ...
YOU SHOULD CUT DOWN!
YOUR CONCERN FOR MY HEALTH ...
IS TOUCHING
IT'S JUST THAT YOUR HAIR STINKS!
MY PERIOD'S LATE
IND

AND I'M PRETTY REGULAR.
IS ...
♪ "HUSH LITTLE BABY DON'T SAY A WORD... PAPA'S GONNA BUY YOU A MOCKIN'BIRD" ♪
IS IT MINE?
HA!
I KNEW YOU'D SAY THAT.
TND
...

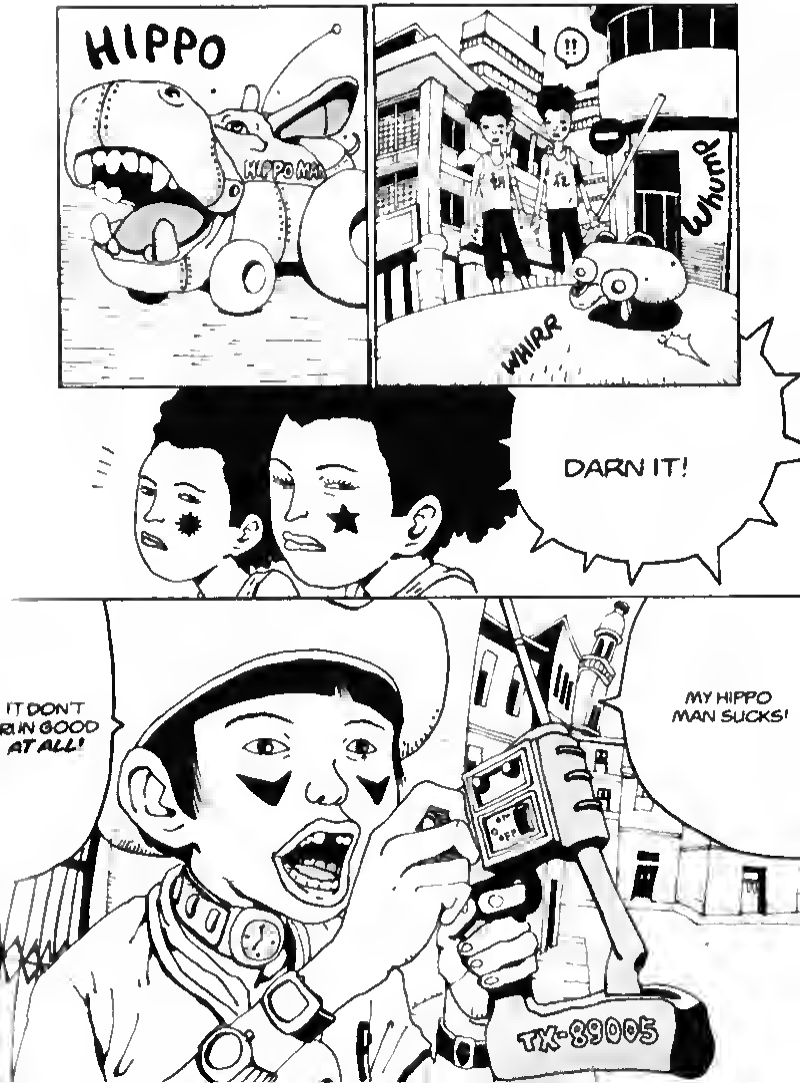
I SHOULD WHAT-!?
I SAID, LET OTA TAKE CARE OF BUSINESS TODAY.
YO.
IS THAT AN ORDER FROM ABOVE?
YOU KNOW, KIMURA, YOU'RE HEAVILY INFLUENCED BY VENUS.
I-I'M FROM EARTH.
I'M TALKING ABOUT YOUR HOROSCOPE YOU'RE IN A SLUMP RIGHT NOW
SO WHAT!?

DON'T BE SO NEGATIVE. LIGHTEN UP.
MR. SUZUKI!?
MR. SUZUKI!?
JUST CONSIDER THIS A PAID VACATION. TAKE A BREATHER.
VROOOM

TAKARA
TAKARA
HYUU
SOON, BROTHER DUSK.
YUP.
朝
TAKARA
UUUU
IT'S KITTY-CAT TERRITORY FROM HERE ON, BROTHER DAWN.
IF YOU WANT TO DIE, DIE ALREADY
在
朝

TAKE A BREATHER!? GOD DAMN!
I'M A YAKUZA THROUGH AND THROUGH!
FROM THE DAY I WAS BORN, GOT THAT?
AN EYE FOR AN EYE, A TOOTH FOR A TOOTH. HOW DOES THAT GO...?
I AM SERIOUSLY PISSED!
SNOW
IT...
IT WASN'T SUPPOSED TO BE LIKE THIS.
AHRRR...

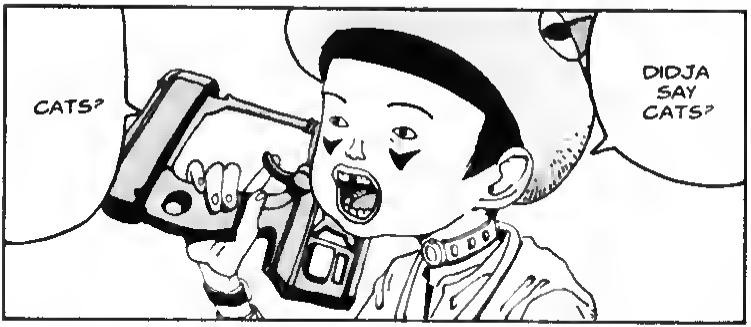
SAY, BRO! HOW TOUGH D'YA THINK THEM CATS ARE?
WELL ...
INDIA
ROLEX
VIDLO
MINOI
tup
I HAS HEARD SOME POW'FUL RUMORS!
TALL TALES 'BOUT JUMPIN' OVER BUILDIN'S, KNOCKIN' OFF YAKUZA, AND SUCH LIKE.
HMM ...
PHOENIX
BUT I AIN'T GOT THE FOGGIEST WHAT THEY LOOK LIKE!
!?
VROOOM


HIPPO
HIPPO MAN
!!
WHUMP
WHIRR
DARN IT!
IT DON'T RUN GOOD AT ALL!
MY HIPPO MAN SUCKS!
TX-89005

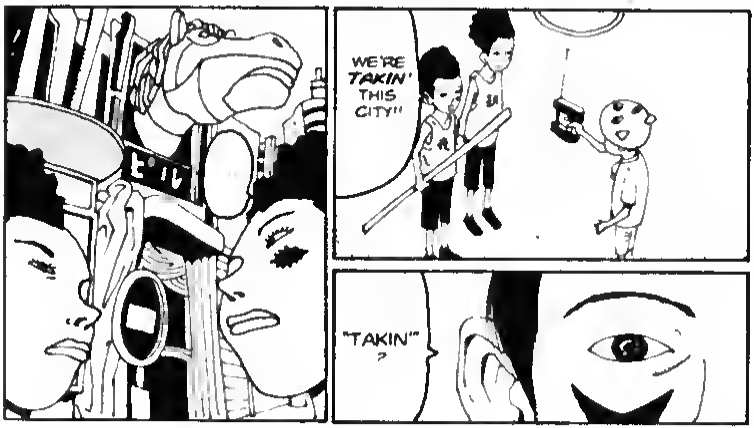
NGGH IT'S NOT LOVE THAT I NEED!
tonk
MOCH
WHAT A SORRY SIGHT.
HUH—? WHA—?
CRUSHED. POOR THING.
skrrk

WHO THE HELL ARE YOU? TAKE A HIKE, FREAK!
BUT YOU CAN STILL BE SAVED.
WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT? TRYING TO SELL ME RELIGION? I DON'T BELIEVE IN ANYTHING!
DO NOT PROVOKE ME
IT'S NOT JUST MY FACE THAT IS TWISTED.
EH!?
selfish Bitch
obnoxious Bastard
THE GREAT HOPE OF THE SPIRIT GANG, KIMURA, IS A RUINED MAN
fwip
!!

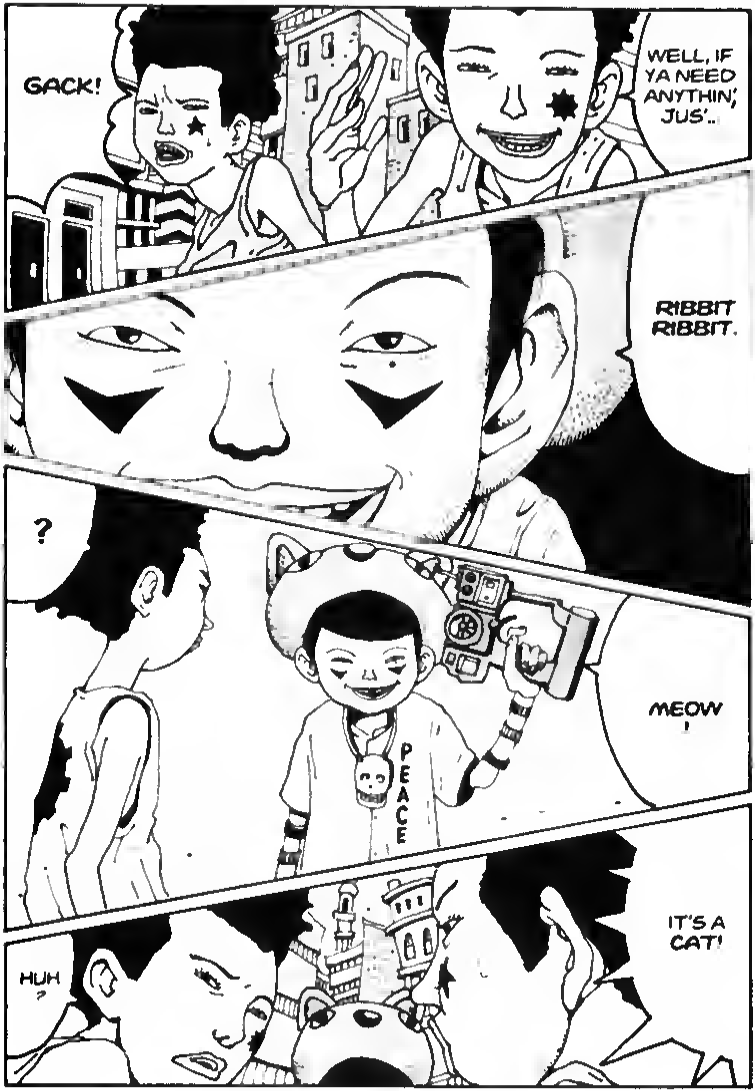
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE! WHO ARE YOU WORKING FOR?!
IT IS DIFFICULT TO EXPLAIN OUR EXISTENCE IN WORDS
OH, I GET IT YOU'RE A FOREIGNER
RIGHT?
FEEL FREE TO GIVE US A CALL WHENEVER YOU GET THE URGE. I'M CERTAIN YOU WON'T REGRET IT.
shff
TILL WE MEET AGAIN.
HUMAN FALE ANIMAL MIND
BE A SHEEP RATHER THAN A TIGER
STOP AND SMELL THE ROSES
WAIT! HEY! I ASKED YOU WHO YOU ARE! HEY, FREAK! HEY!
COME AGAIN!


CATS?
DIDJA SAY CATS?

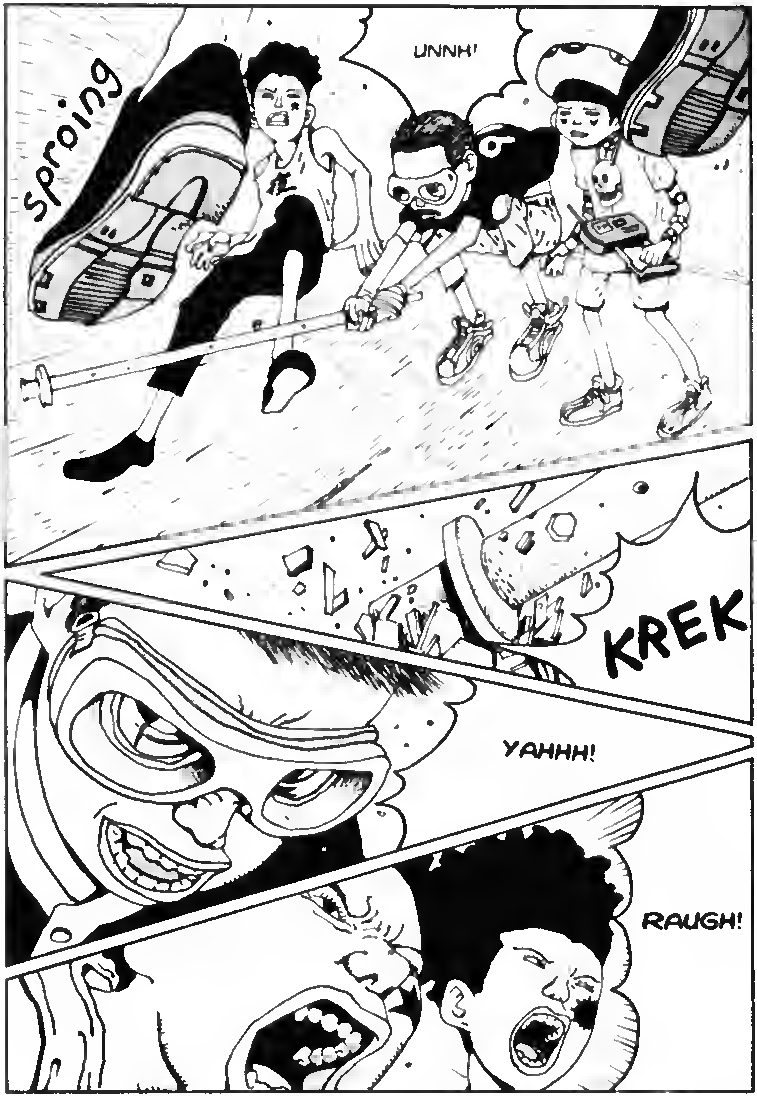
YUP THEY SAY THEY LIVE IN THIS HERE CITY YOU HEAR TELL OF 'EM?
SURE DIDJA KNOW THERE'S LOTSA CALICOS AND TABBIES?
BUT WHAT'RE YOU DOIN HERE?


WE'RE TAKIN' THIS CITY!!
"TAKIN"?

WE'S GONNA SPLIT THE HEADS O' THEM CAT BRATS WHO BEEN RUNNIN' THIS PLACE, AND TAKE IT OVER!
?!
OH, YOU GUYS IS BAD, HUH?
YUTAKA CITY'S DAWN AND DUSK BROTHERS GOT A BIG REP!
EH?!
I DON'T FEEL ANYTHING AT ALL
Hyuuu
Hyuu


GACK!
WELL, IF YA NEED ANYTHIN', JUS'..
RIBBIT RIBBIT.
?
MEOW!
PEACE
IT'S A CAT!
HUH?

WHA-?!
MEE-YOWRR!
HE'S ONE O' THEM CATS!
BANZAI!
!!!!
96
HYUUUUUUUU


sproing
UNNH!
KREK
YAHHH!
RAUGH!

...
ANOTHER BEER!
COMIN UP!
YUMI-TAKE TABLE 5
OKAY!
THE BOSS JUST DON'T GET IT, YKNOW?!
BUT WHERE WOULD YOU BE IF YOU QUIT?
ONE ORDER OF KATSU UDON, COMIN UP!
KIDDIE CASTLE SNAKE
HYUUU

MEAN KIDS PRACTICE RANDOM VIOLENCE AND SENSELESS ACTS OF DOLINESS ON THE MEAN STREETS

"Manga is an entertainment industry. The [illegible] And If Black & White [illegible] Art, it [illegible] to the City, be it [illegible]

—Eiji Otsuka

[illegible] NOVELS—COMPLIANT THE [illegible] OF VIZ [illegible]

[illegible] police—employs the same [illegible] with varying degrees [illegible]

Eiji Otsuka made his manga debut in 1985 [illegible] Afternoon with the short story Straight. [illegible] for best new female talent by Imagi [illegible] include the bowling comic Zero, [illegible] Heaven, and the sports manga Ping Pong.

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VOL. 2

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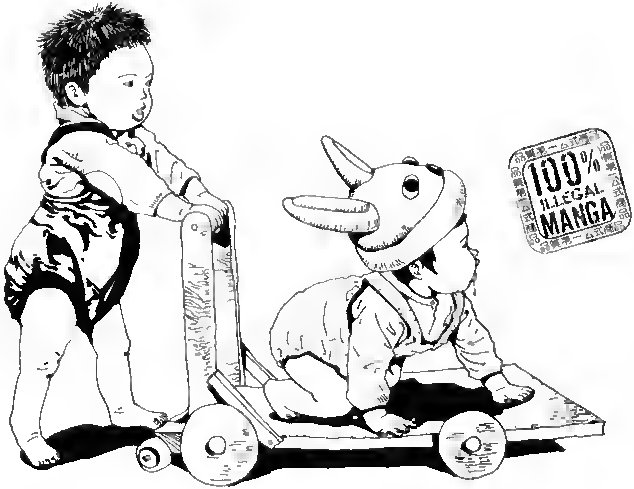

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YOU CAN'T ORGANIZE EMOTIONS LIKE BOOKS ON A SHELF.
G32
VA-VROOOOM

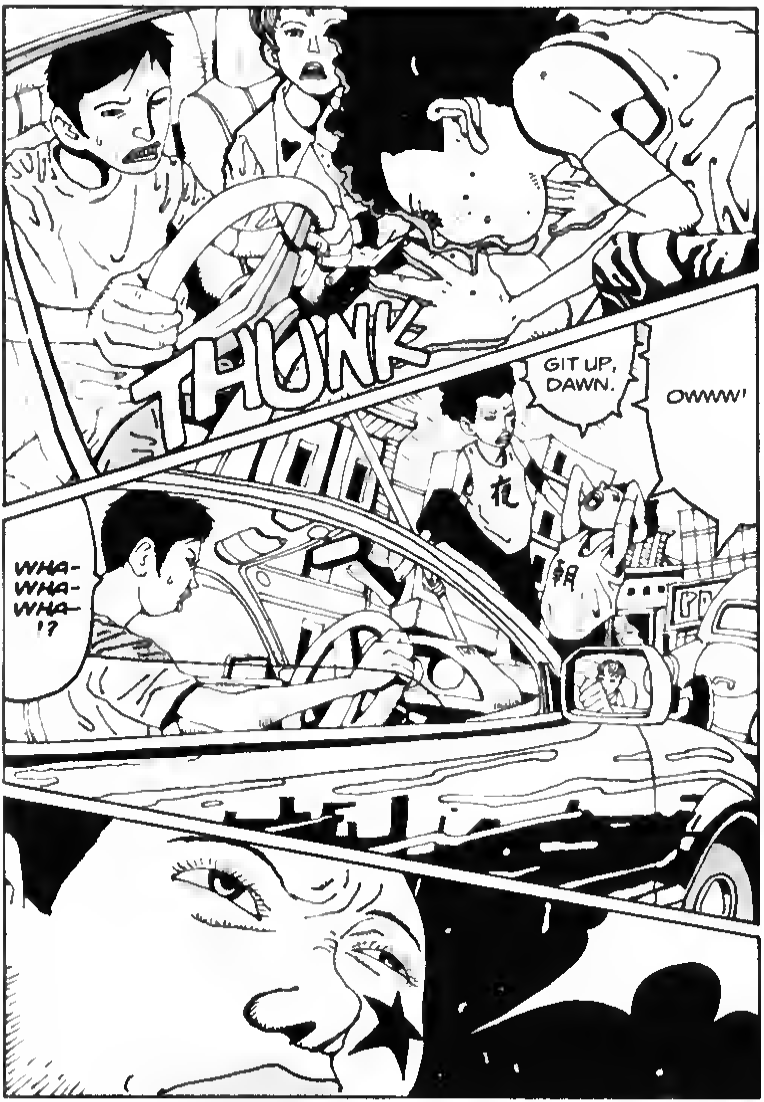
VROOM
I KNOW THAT LOVE IS JUST AN ILLUSION CREATED BY GRIEF, BUT I WANT SOMETHING I CAN BELIEVE IN!

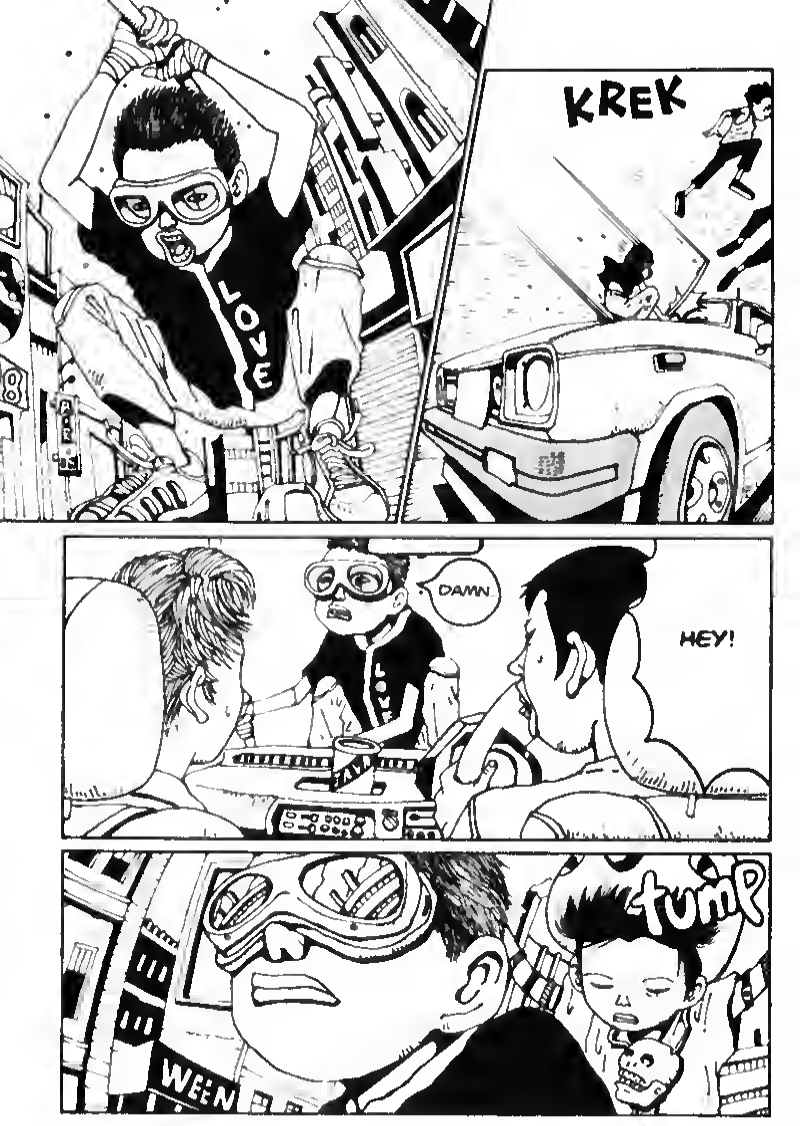
HANAKO!
I HATE THIS CITY, TARO!

EH?!

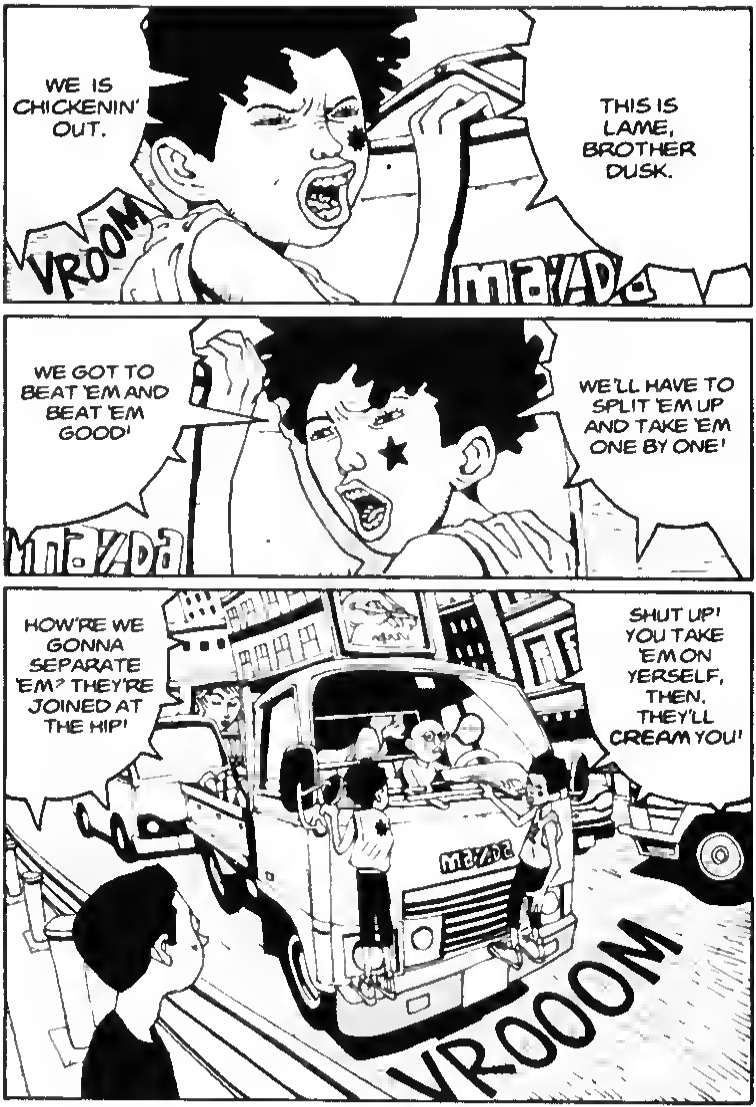
SKIRMISH 13

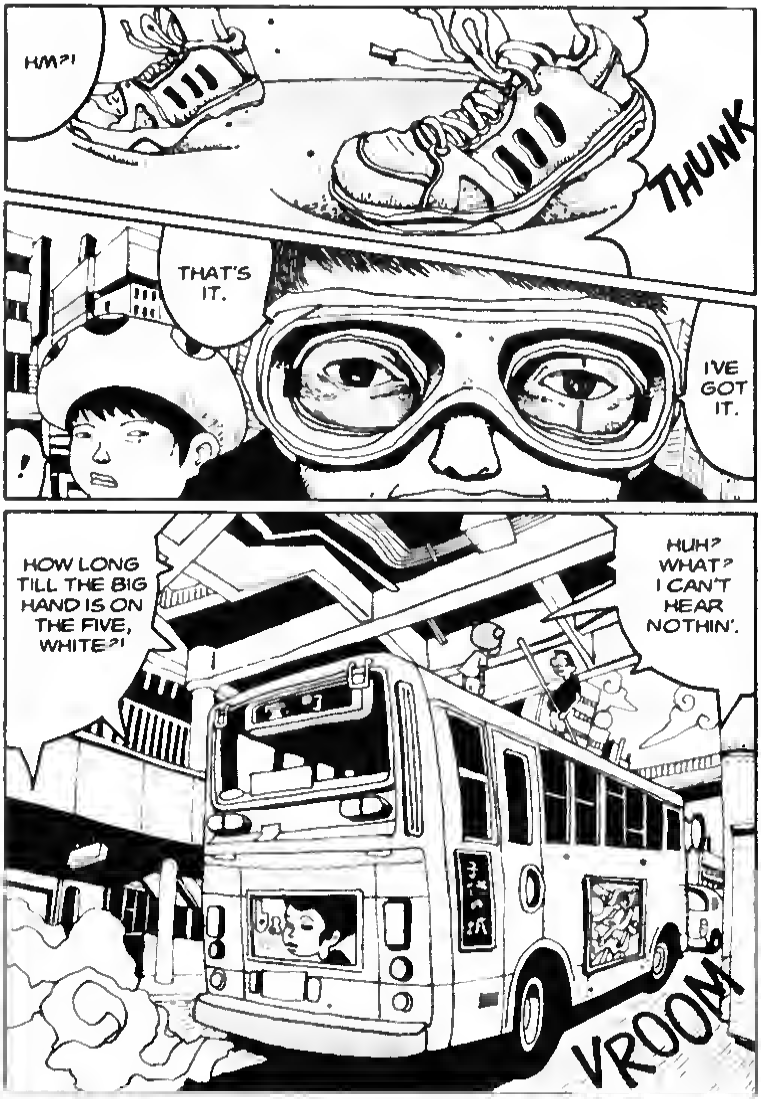
DRINK MILK, GROW STRONG BONES!


THUNK
GIT UP, DAWN.
OWWW!
WHA-WHA-WHA-!?

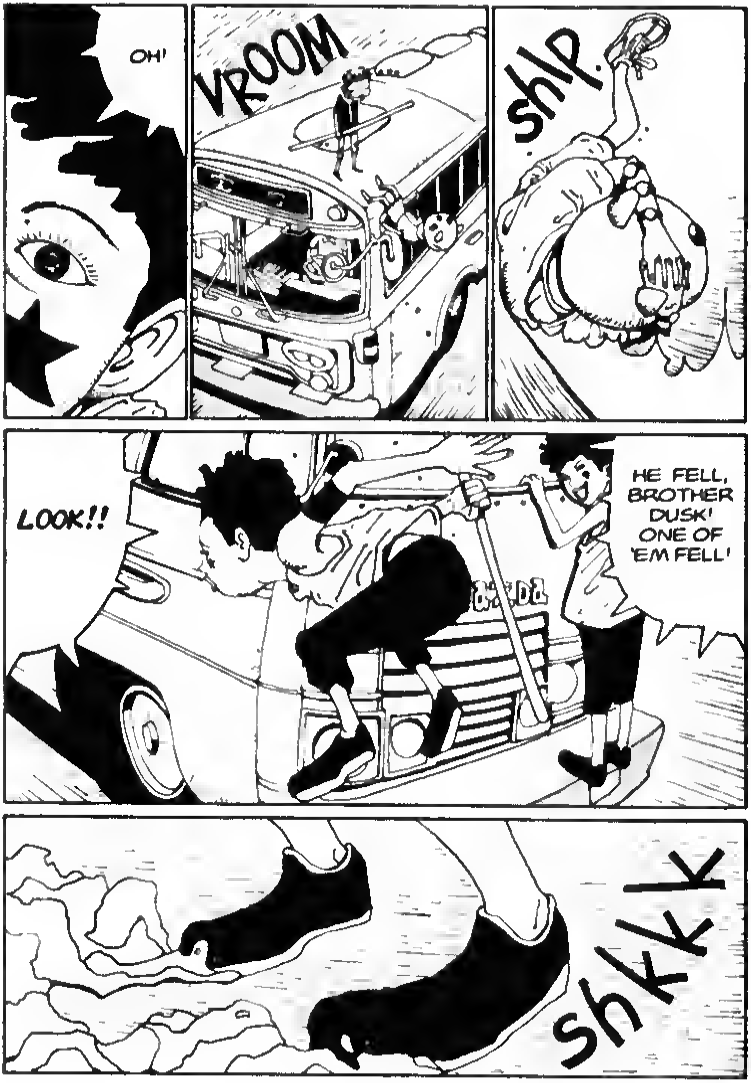

LOVE
KREK
DAMN
HEY!
tump
WEEN

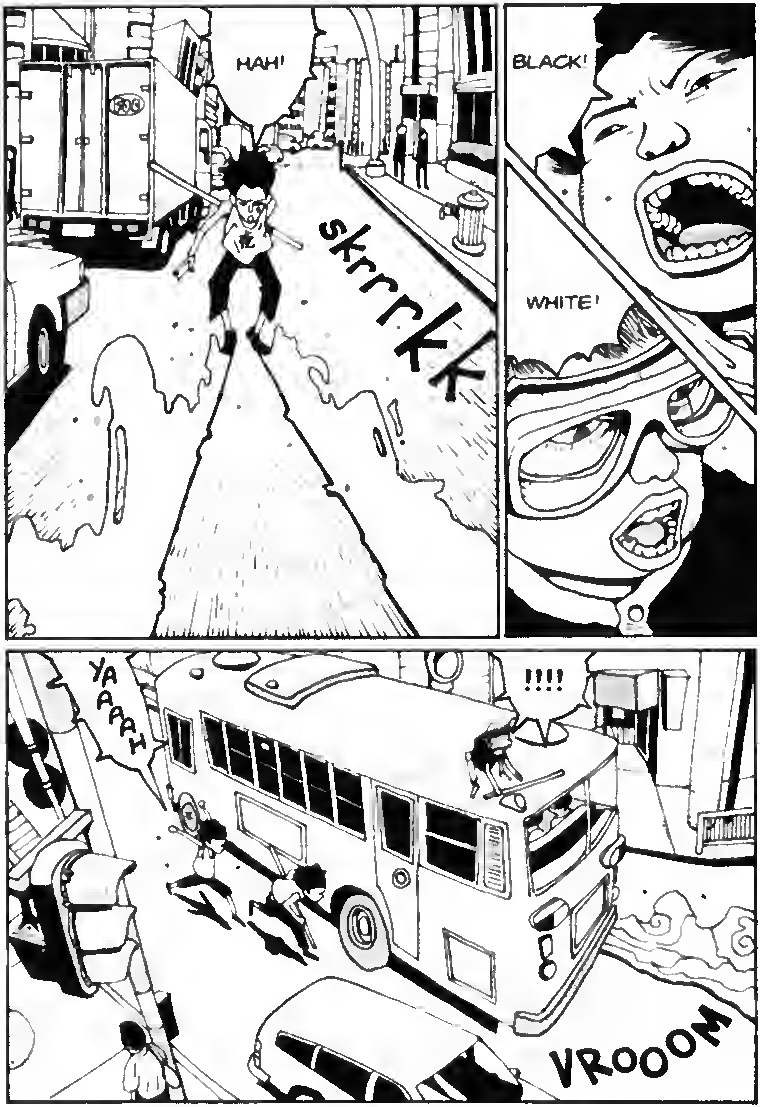
VROOOM
THEY STARTED IT, BUT THEY KEEPS RUNNIN' AWAY! NO FAIR!
HMM?
YEAH.
!!
96
VROOOM
BOY, GIRL! KISSIE-KISSIE!


WE IS CHICKENIN' OUT.
THIS IS LAME, BROTHER DUSK.
VROOM
MAZDA
WE GOT TO BEAT 'EM AND BEAT 'EM GOOD!
WE'LL HAVE TO SPLIT 'EM UP AND TAKE 'EM ONE BY ONE!
MAZDA
HOW'RE WE GONNA SEPARATE 'EM? THEY'RE JOINED AT THE HIP!
SHUT UP! YOU TAKE 'EM ON YERSELF, THEN. THEY'LL CREAM YOU!
MAZDA
VROOOM

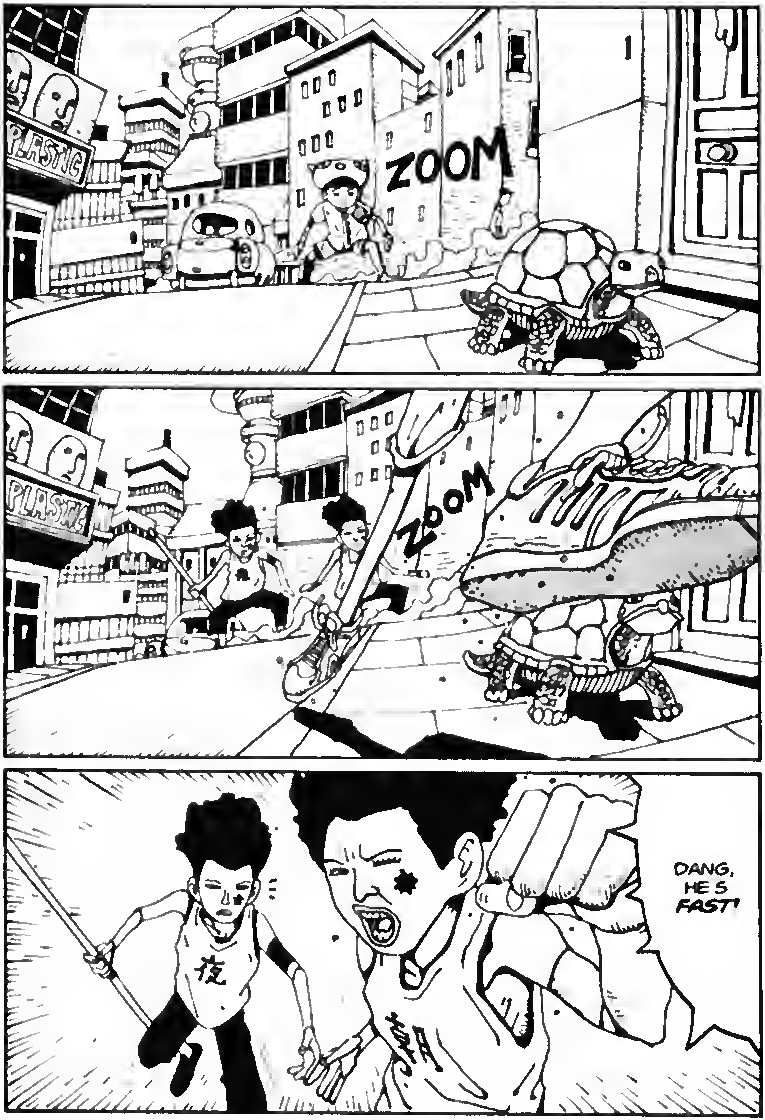

HM?!
THUNK
THAT'S IT.
I'VE GOT IT.
HOW LONG TILL THE BIG HAND IS ON THE FIVE, WHITE?!
HUH? WHAT? I CAN'T HEAR NOTHIN'.
VROOM

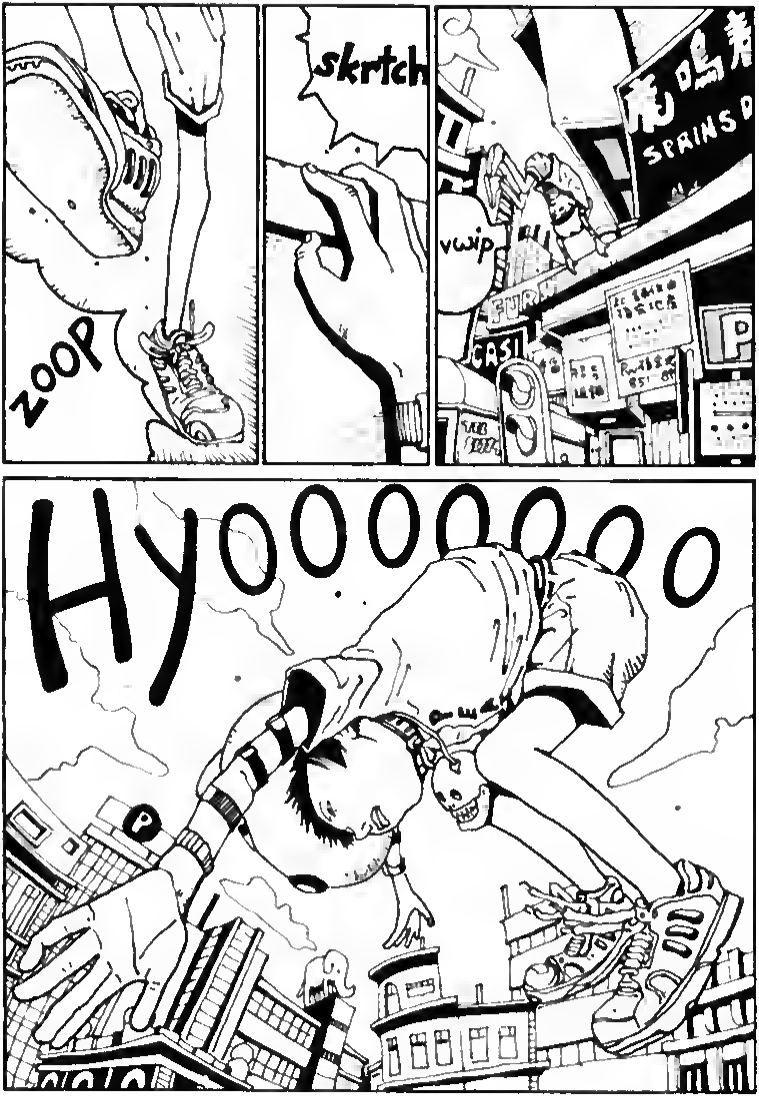
YOU KNOW. HOW LONG TILL FIVE O'CLOCK!
VROOM
vrm m m
LOVE
VROOM
神海工務店
(有) TEL 9864-3P6Q
VROOOM
CICI
CIC
DRINK

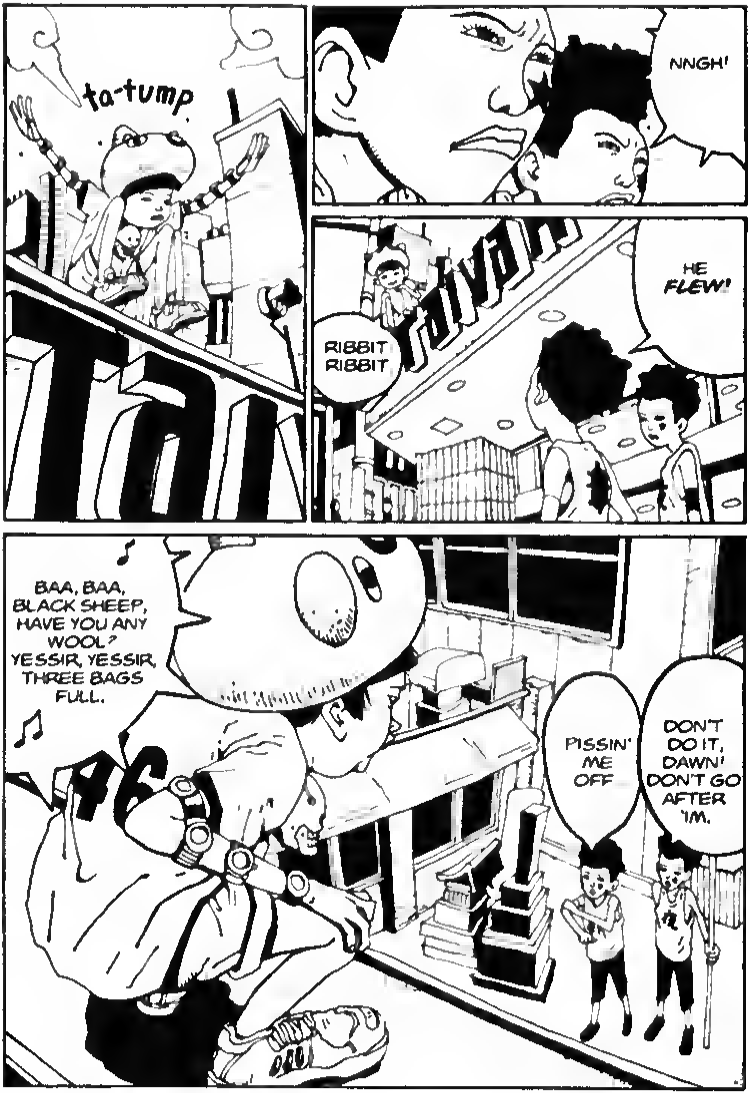

OH!
VROOM
SHIP
LOOK!!
HE FELL, BROTHER DUSK! ONE OF 'EM FELL!
SHKKK


HAH!
skrrrkk
BLACK!
WHITE!
YA AAAH
!!!!
VROOOM

GOTCHA!
THEY'RE RIGHT BEHIND YOU, WHITE!
ZOOM
...
VROOM
HEY! GET OFFA THERE!
HM?
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING UP THERE?! HAVE YOU NO RESPECT FOR AUTHORITY, YOUNG MAN?

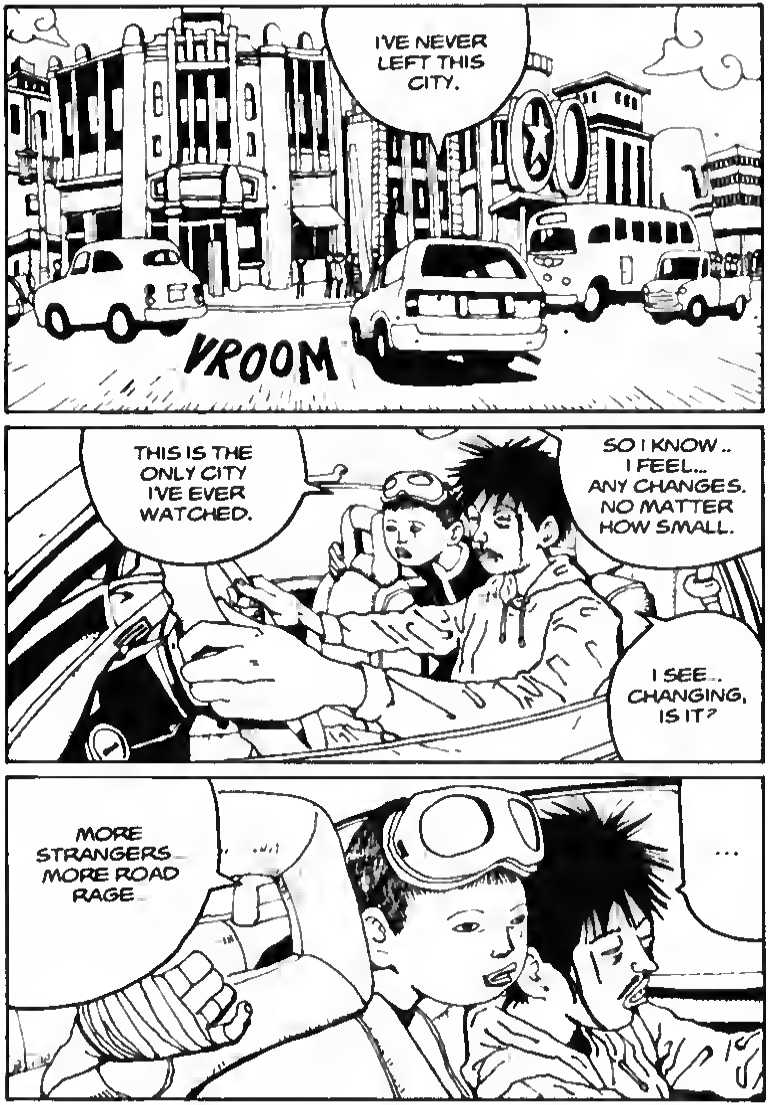

PLASTIC
ZOOM
PLASTIC
ZOOM
DANG, HE'S FAST!


ZOOP
skrtch
vwip
CASH
Hyoooooooo

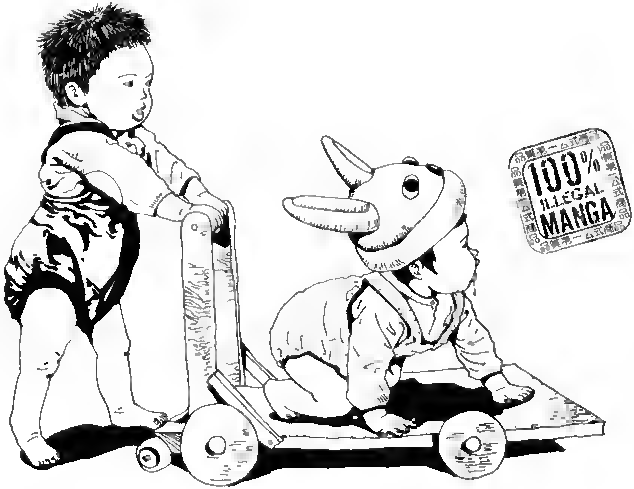

ta-tump
NNGH!
HE FLEW!
RIBBIT RIBBIT
BAA, BAA, BLACK SHEEP, HAVE YOU ANY WOOL? YESSIR, YESSIR, THREE BAGS FULL.
PISSIN' ME OFF
DON'T DO IT, DAWN! DON'T GO AFTER 'IM.

...
WHY IN TARNATION NOT?
IN TH' AIR, THEY RULE!
HMM ...
BUT NOW'S OUR CHANCE. HE'S ALL BY HIMSELF!
I KNOW THAT, BUT...
HOPP
squee
OH.

WHILE YOU WAS STALLIN', HE TOOK OFF!
ALL RIGHT ALREADY!
...
GOD-DAMMIT!
ZOOP
HYUUUUUUU
FABIAN
rttt
rttt


I'VE NEVER LEFT THIS CITY.
VROOM
THIS IS THE ONLY CITY I'VE EVER WATCHED.
SO I KNOW.. I FEEL... ANY CHANGES. NO MATTER HOW SMALL.
I SEE.. CHANGING, IS IT?
MORE STRANGERS MORE ROAD RAGE
...

huff
huff
huf
huf
hff
huf
huf
huf
hf
zoop
Hyuuuu



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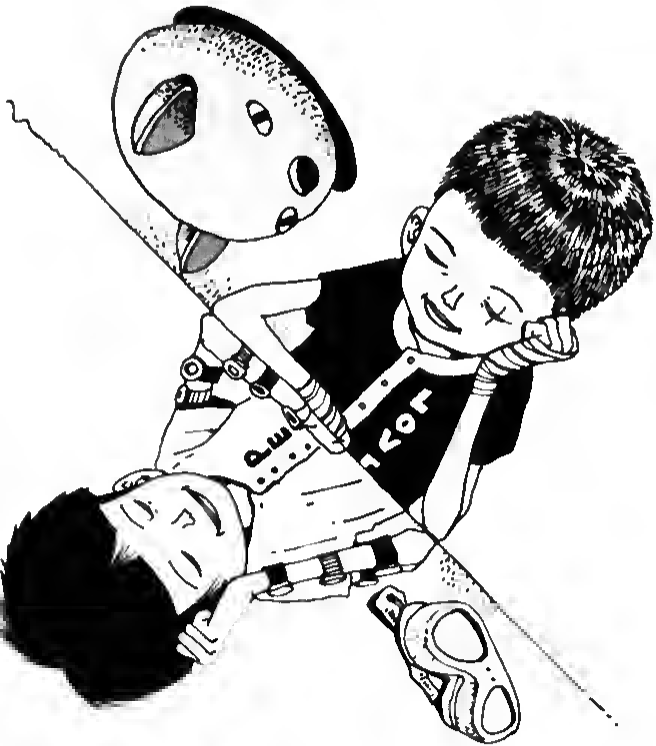
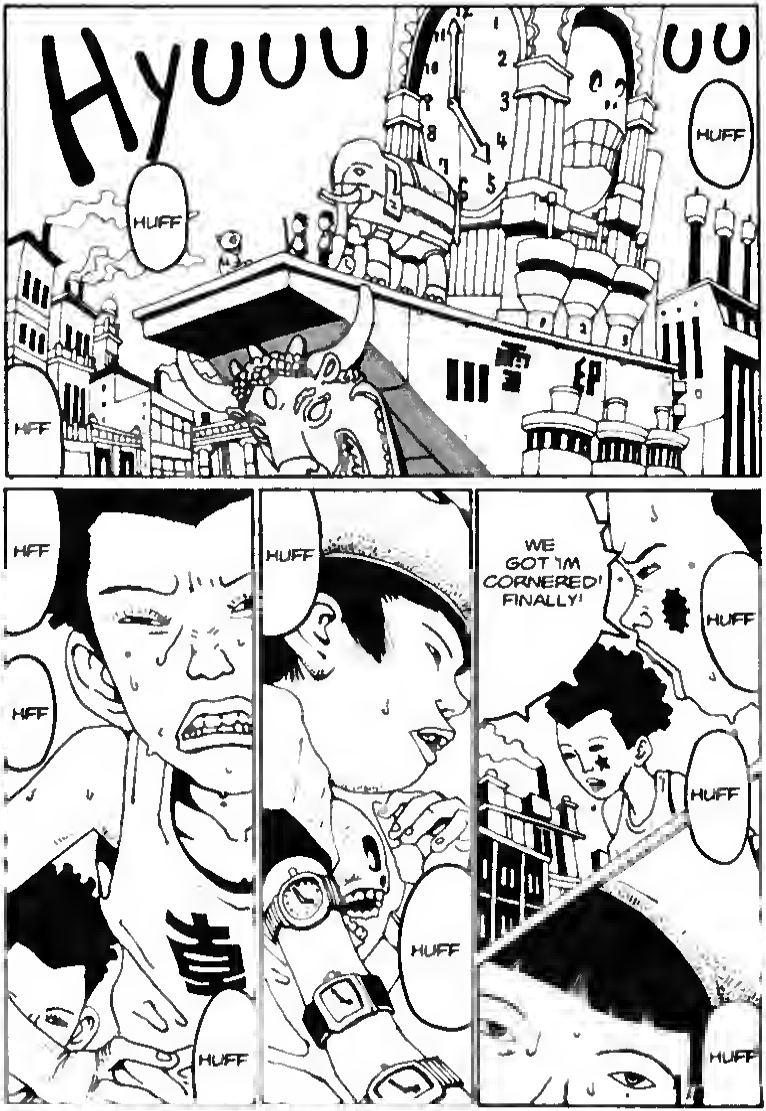
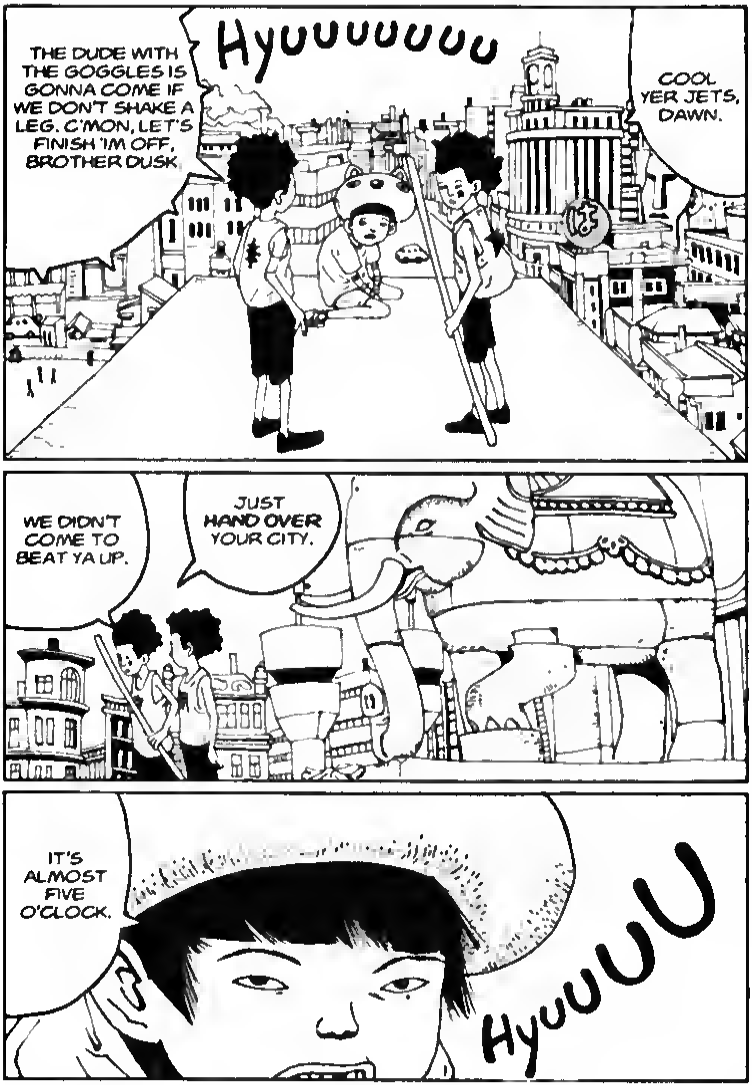
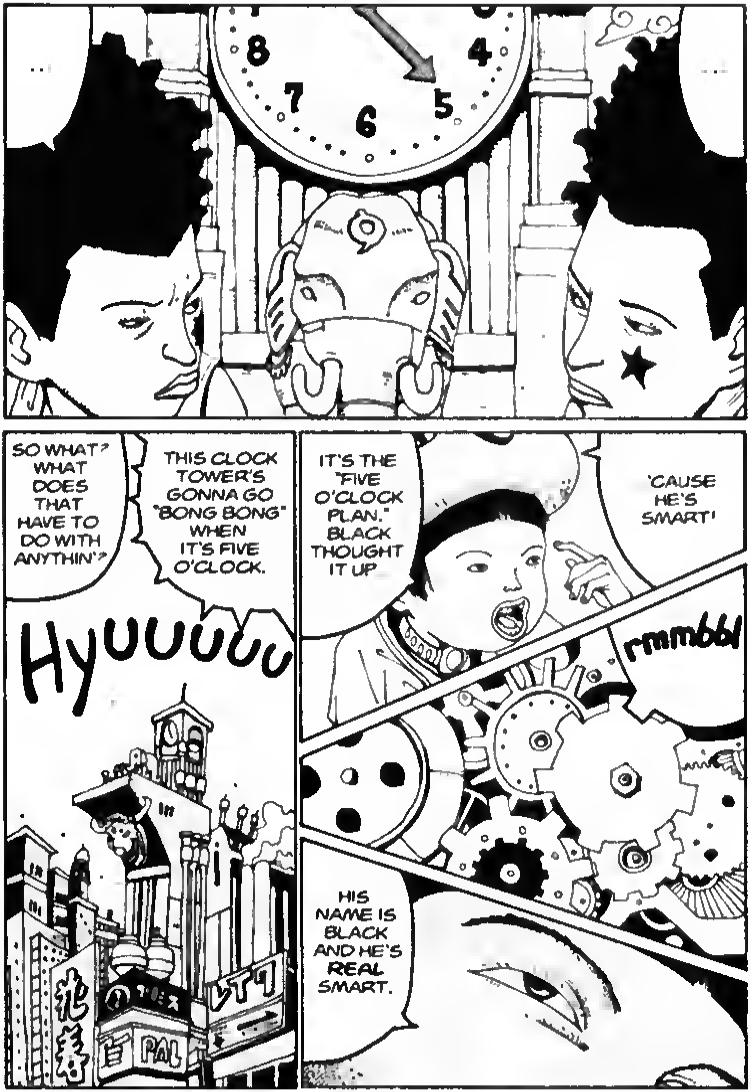
SKIRMISH 14

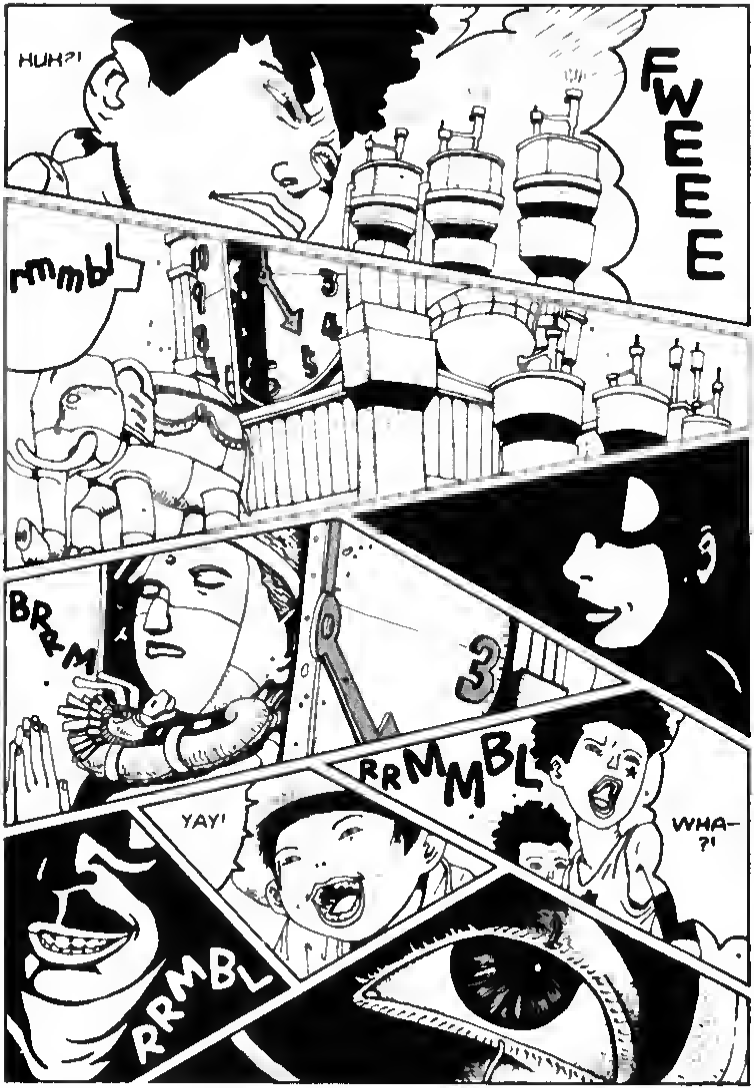
SOCIAL SKILLS

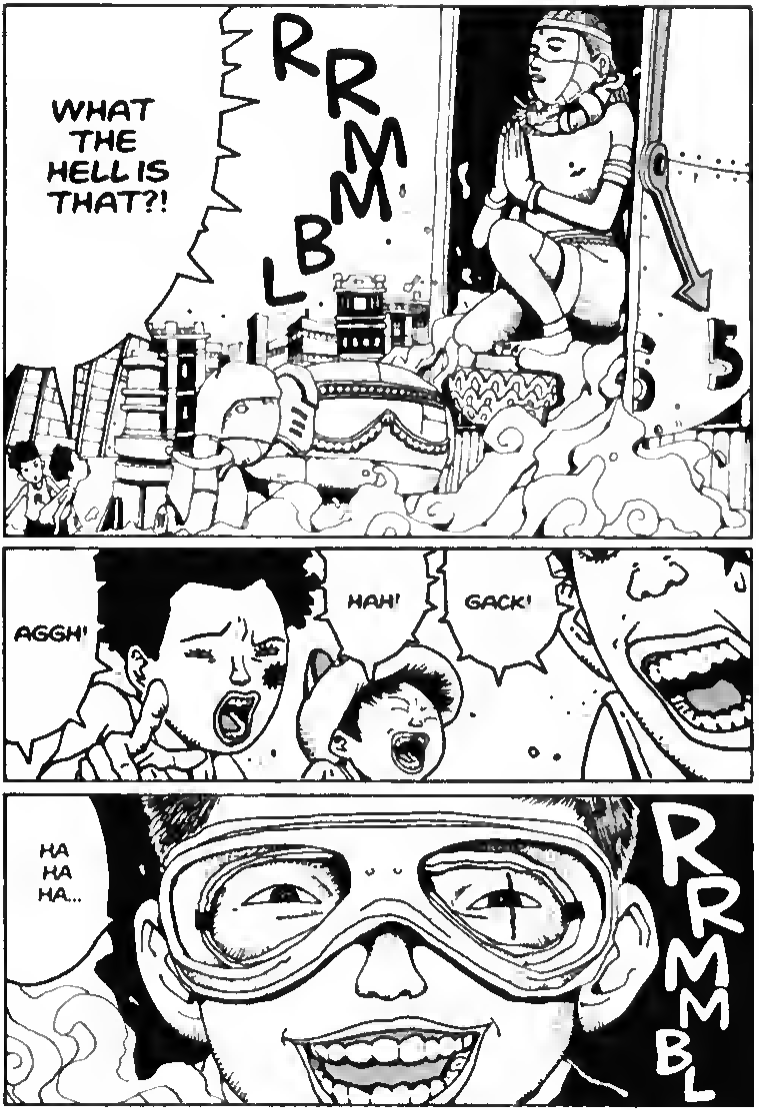


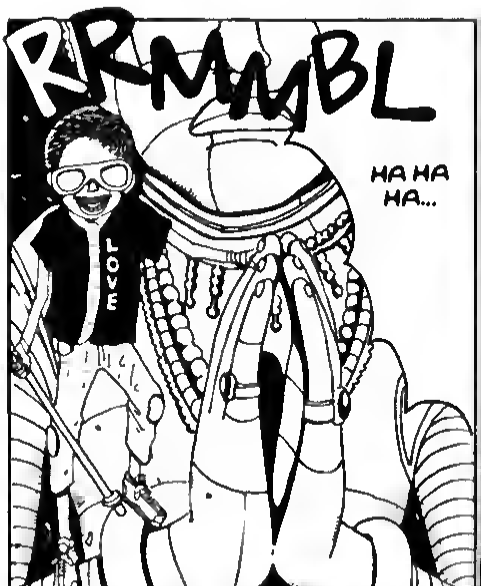

Hyuuu
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
WE GOT 'IM CORNERED! FINALLY!


Hyuuuuuuu
THE DUDE WITH THE GOGGLES IS GONNA COME IF WE DON'T SHAKE A LEG. C'MON, LET'S FINISH 'IM OFF, BROTHER DUSK.
COOL YER JETS, DAWN.
WE DIDN'T COME TO BEAT YA UP.
JUST HAND OVER YOUR CITY.
IT'S ALMOST FIVE O'CLOCK.
Hyuuuu


SO WHAT? WHAT DOES THAT HAVE TO DO WITH ANYTHIN'?
THIS CLOCK TOWER'S GONNA GO "BONG BONG" WHEN IT'S FIVE O'CLOCK.
Hyuuuuuu
IT'S THE "FIVE O'CLOCK PLAN," BLACK THOUGHT IT UP
'CAUSE HE'S SMART!
rmmbb!
HIS NAME IS BLACK AND HE'S REAL SMART.


HUH?!
FWEEE
rmmbl
BRRM
3
RRMMBL
YAY!
WHA-?!
RRMBL


WHAT THE HELL IS THAT?!
RRMMBL
AGGH!
HAH!
GACK!
HA HA HA...
RRMMBL



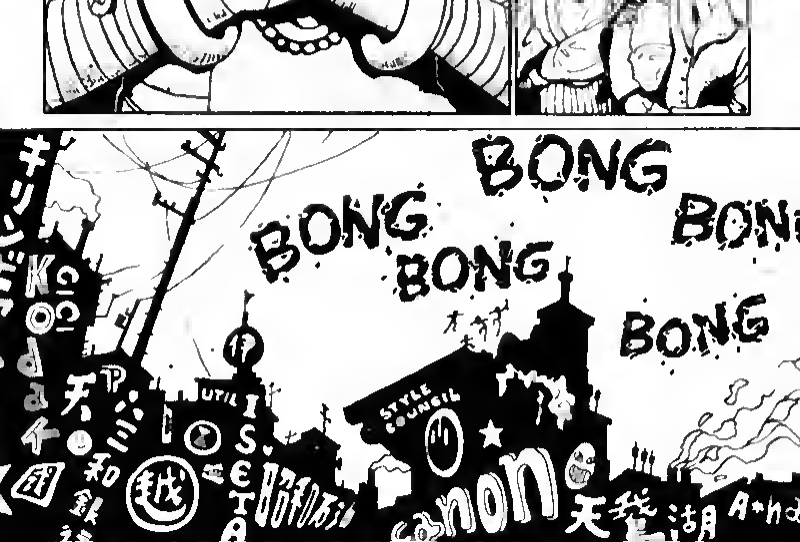
Boy Look, Mom, the bell tower's going to ring.

Mom You're right! Saburo, can you see it?

Saburo Ga-ga, goo-goo!

Girl Dad! There are people up there.

Dad Why, you're right. There certainly are.



ASSASSINS?
YEP, YOU HEARD RIGHT.
PUSH
LOVE
夜
THREE GROWNUPS DROVE US CLEAR OUT OF TOWN.
B-623
ARE THEY GOING TO COME HERE TOO?
Hyuuuuuuuuuu
YEP.

HUH? FAR THINGS LOOK CLOSE-UP, HOW COME?
HAIN'T YOU NEVER SEEN A TELESCOPE BEFORE?
HOW DO YOU KNOW?
THIS BUILDING.
AWE-SOME.
AIN'T IT?
A BUILDING JUST LIKE THIS ONE POPPED UP IN OUR CITY A YEAR AGO.
THEN EVERYTHIN' STARTED TO CHANGE—
PEOPLE, CARS, BUILDINGS. THE WHOLE CITY STARTED TO FEEL DIFFERENT.
THEN THE ASSASSINS CAME.

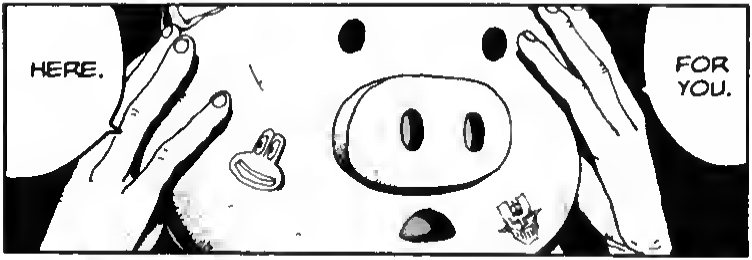
ARE THEY REALLY TOUGH?
HUH?
I SAID, ARE THEY REALLY TOUGH?
THE ASSASSINS?
YEAH.
THEY'RE KILLING MACHINES.
WHAT'S WITH HIM...?
THE ONLY ONE WHO MIGHT BE ABLE TO BEAT 'EM IS THE MINOTAUR.
HAH! THE MINOTAUR, EH?
96
STRATEGY GUIDE

YOU KNOW... THAT MONSTER FROM THE STORIES.
YEAH. WITH THE HEAD OF A BULL AND THE BODY OF A MAN, RIGHT?
THAT'S RIGHT. THE MINOTAUR AIN'T REAL. HE'S JUST A LEGEND.
A BEAST WHO CAN'T TALK OR LOVE AND LIVES FOR HURTIN' AND DESTROYIN'.
IT'S NOT LIKE I BELIEVE IN IT OR NOTHIN' BUT...
WHEN I LOOK AT YOU... SOMEHOW...

SOUTH
JIIIRR
THEM.
SMILE
LOOK CLOSELY.
flik
THAT IS THE REFUSE YOU'LL BE CLEANING OUT OF THIS CITY.
Trading

VEEEEP
SERPENT HERE.
OH! IT'S YOU...
SO? HAVE YOU DECIDED TO JOIN US?
YES, OF COURSE. YOU'RE ALWAYS WELCOME HERE.
UFO

WHO WERE YOU ON THE PHONE WITH JUST NOW?
HMM? OH... NOBODY.
YOU'VE BEEN MOPING AROUND HERE FOREVER. WHY DON'T YOU GO OUT FOR A CHANGE?
GOT ANY SMOKES?
I TOLD YOU, I QUIT. DON'T MAKE ME REPEAT MYSELF.
DAMN. WE'RE OUT OF EGGS.
ALCHIE
KASTLE SERPENT
TEL-CH
FAX-CH
OH YEAH... THAT'S RIGHT...

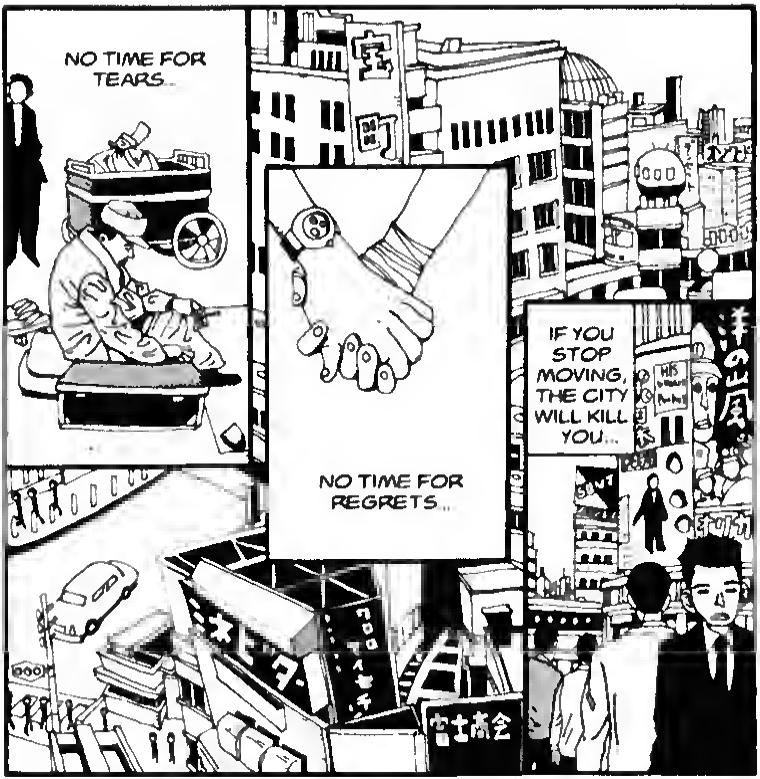

HERE.
FOR YOU.

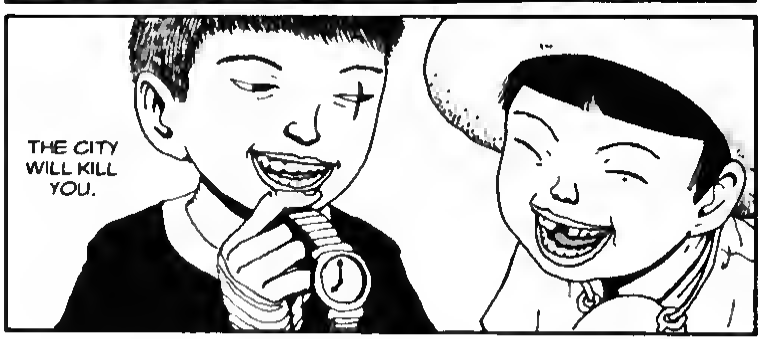
WHAT'S THIS?
A PIGGIE!

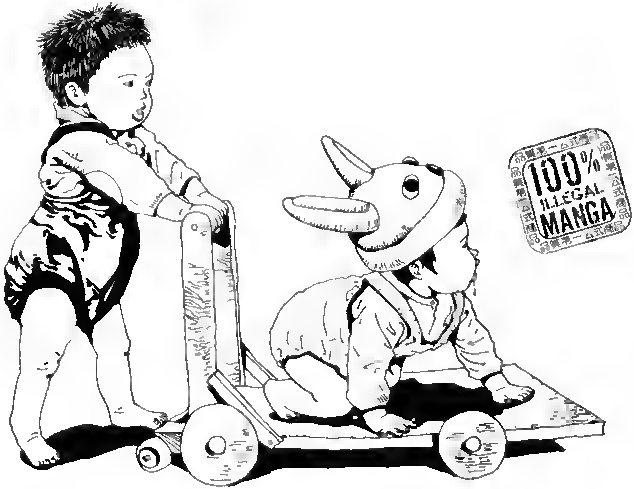
WHEN THIS PIGGIE GOT FULL, I WAS GONNA FLY UP IN THE SKY IN AN AIRPLANE WITH BLACK
BUT I'M GONNA GIVE IT TO YOU. YOU CAN HAVE IT.

AWW, WE CAN'T TAKE THAT. KEEP IT.
Squee
C'MERE, WHITE.
HUH?
STAY AWAY FROM HIM.
WHO? BLACK?
GUYS LIKE HIM. THEY'LL DO ANYTHIN' FOR KICKS.
THAT TYPE DON'T LAST LONG. HE'LL BUY THE FARM FER SURE ANY DAY NOW.

COME WITH US, WHITE. YOU AIN'T LIKE 'IM AT ALL.
...
I'M COOL.
BYE-BYE.
WHITE...


NO TIME FOR TEARS...
NO TIME FOR REGRETS...
IF YOU STOP MOVING, THE CITY WILL KILL YOU...


THE CITY WILL KILL YOU.



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SKIRMISH 15

THE RAT THAT SQUEAKED

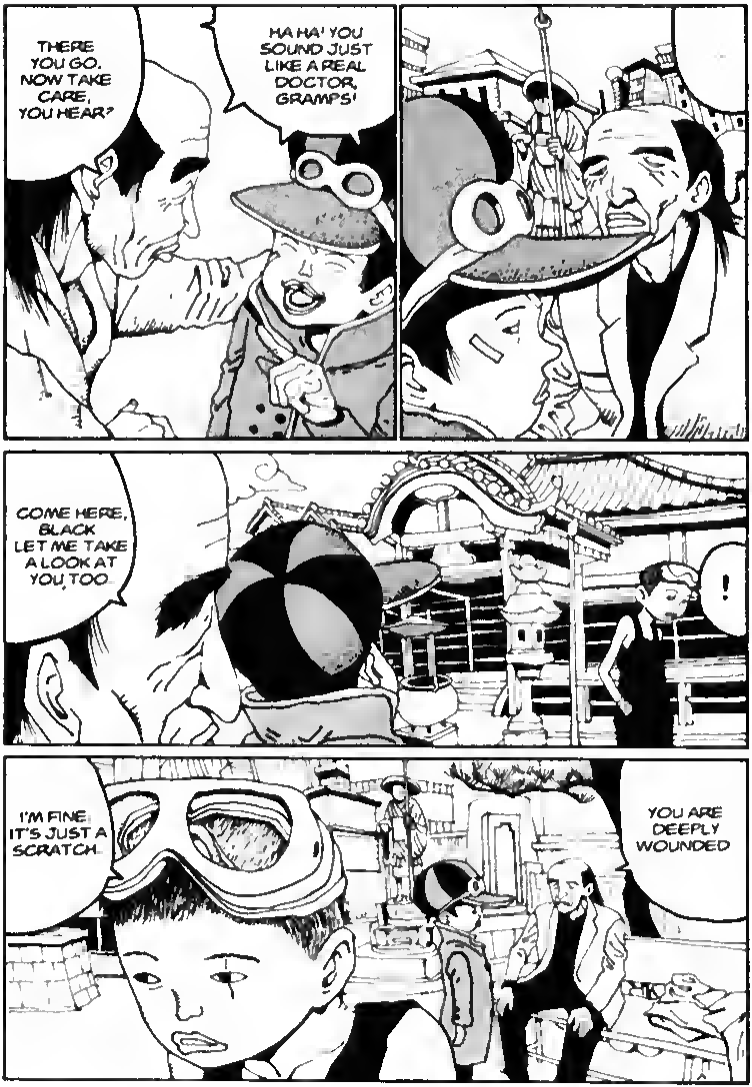
5 6 7
12 13 14
19 20 21
26 27 28
精神
WE OWE THE SUCCESS OF KIDDIE KASTLE ENTIRELY TO YOU. WE'D LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS OUR DEEPEST GRATITUDE.
DON'T MENTION IT.
WORKING TOGETHER IT'S BEEN A LEARNING EXPERIENCE.
A CULTURE SHOCK, HA HA HA.
WE PLAN TO BUILD ANOTHER BRANCH
IN THE THIRD DISTRICT.

AND WE WERE HOPING YOU COULD LEND US A HAND AGAIN...
I SEE.
...
YOU ARE A VISIONARY!
ECONOMIC ENTERPRISES AIMED AT CHILDREN'S WALLETS... WHAT A WONDERFUL GROWTH OPPORTUNITY.
YOUR PROPOSITION INTRIGUES ME...
WHAT SAY YOU, RAT?
GENPACHI RUNS A STRIP JOINT IN THE THIRD DISTRICT

FOR THE PAST 50 YEARS, THAT'S WHERE ALL THE BOYS IN THIS CITY HAVE BECOME MEN.
SEX
WHY TEAR IT DOWN AND REPLACE IT WITH A PLAYGROUND?
BUT I HEAR THEY HAVE MORE STRIPPERS THAN CUSTOMERS THESE DAYS.
ISN'T THAT RIGHT, RAT?
SQUEEK
IT'S THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN THIS CITY WHO SHOULD SHAPE IT.
THAT KIND OF OLD-FASHIONED, PROVINCIAL THINKING...
...HINDERS CITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT.
SNORT
THAT'S RIGHT, RAT. THINK GLOBALLY, NOT LOCALLY.

BESIDES OUR EYES HAVE SEEN VERY DIFFERENT THINGS
WE CAN'T BECOME "BLOOD BROTHERS" JUST LIKE THAT
THAT'S ENOUGH, RAT!"
...
chik

OUCHIE-OUCH! WAHH!
NOW, NOW. KEEP STILL.
YOU TWO KEEP COMING TO ME WITH FRESH WOUNDS AND BRUISES THESE DAYS.
IT'S NATURAL FOR BOYS TO FIGHT.
BUT YOU WORRY MY OLD HEART
WHEN YOU TAKES A BATH.
IF YOU HOLDS YOUR CUTS WHEN YOU GETS IN, THEY DON'T HURT SO MUCH
BETCHA DIDN'T KNOW THAT!


THERE YOU GO. NOW TAKE CARE, YOU HEAR?
HA HA! YOU SOUND JUST LIKE A REAL DOCTOR, GRAMPS!
COME HERE, BLACK LET ME TAKE A LOOK AT YOU, TOO.
!
I'M FINE. IT'S JUST A SCRATCH.
YOU ARE DEEPLY WOUNDED

COME ...
BLACK'S NOT HURT. I KNOW.
NO. I MEAN HERE
YOUR HEART IS DEEPLY WOUNDED. IT'S BECOME HARD AS A ROCK
YOUR KIDDIN'! DOES IT HURT, BLACK?

YOU CAN'T TRUST ANYONE IF YOU WANT TO SURVIVE IN THIS CITY.
YOU TOLD US THAT YOURSELF.
SO I DON'T TRUST ANYBODY. THAT WAY NO ONE CAN EVER HURT ME.
I'M INVULNERABLE.
SUCH TALK.
SADDENS ME DEEPLY.
...
PERHAPS YOU JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND
WHAT HE SAID.

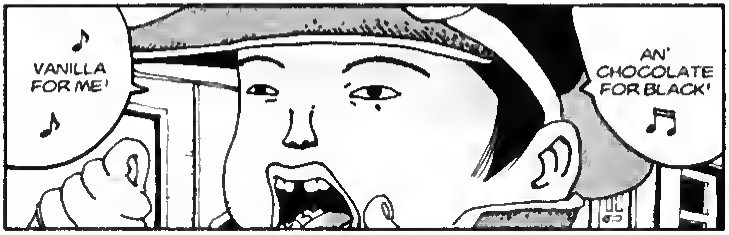
GUAVA
HEY!
OH. MR. SUZUKI.
YO.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
JUST CHECKING UP ON YOU...
HOW'S IT GOING? ALIVE AND WELL?

OF COURSE I'M NOT WELL! I'M SICK OF BEING COOPED UP AT HOME ALL DAY!
HEH HEH HEH. PATIENCE IS A VIRTUE..
...
ARE YOU ALONE?
EH?
WHERE'S ADACHI AND OTA?
I LEFT THEM BEHIND THEY GET IN MY WAY
...
ARE YOU CRAZY!? THAT'S LIKE HANGING A "KILL ME" SIGN ON YOUR BACK!
I'VE LIVED MY LIFE BELIEVING WHITE WAS BLACK IF THE BOSS SAID SO

BUT THESE DAYS.
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?
THIS CITY'S TURNING INTO GODDAMN DISNEYLAND, KIMURA.
shf
OH ALIGHT
THAT'S ALL RIGHT
DID YOU QUIT
SMOKING?
chik
MY WOMAN GOT KNOCKED UP
Foo

I'LL BE A FATHER COME SPRING.
GUAVA
SAY, KIMURA...
THINK THAT OLD SAYING APPLIES TO ME?
"YOU CAN'T TEACH AN OLD DOG NEW TRICKS".
?
HEH HEH

SOFT SERVE
SOFT SERVE,
SWIRL
SWIRL!

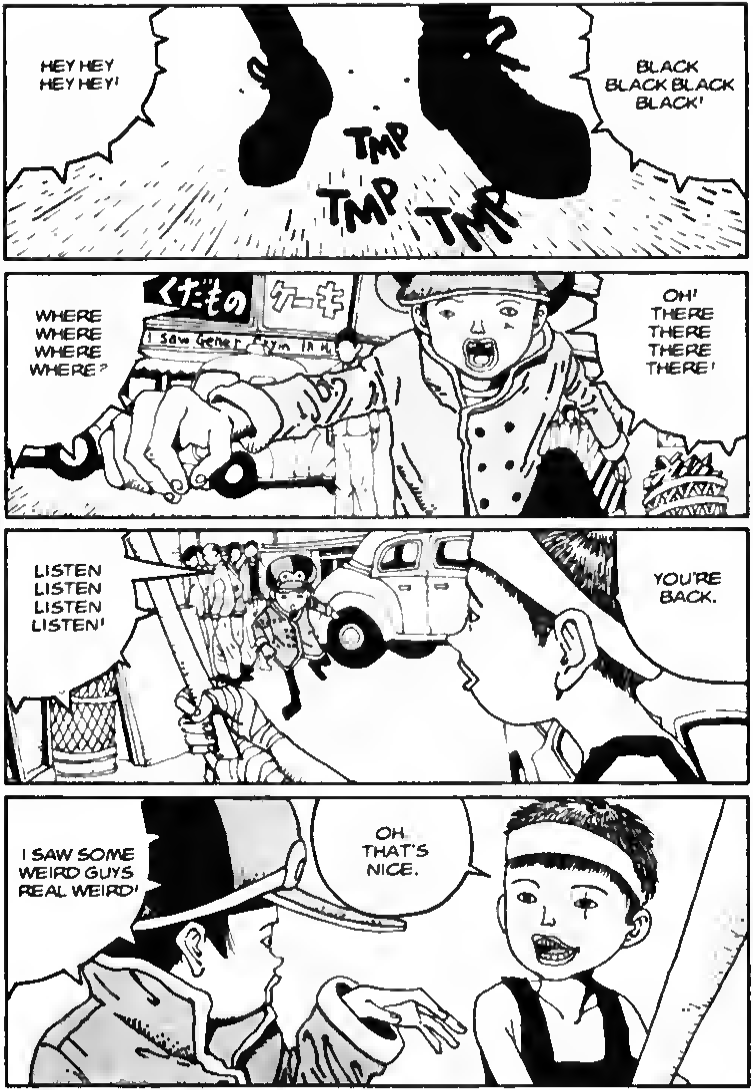

VANILLA
FOR ME!
AN'
CHOCOLATE
FOR BLACK!

WHUMP
OWW-

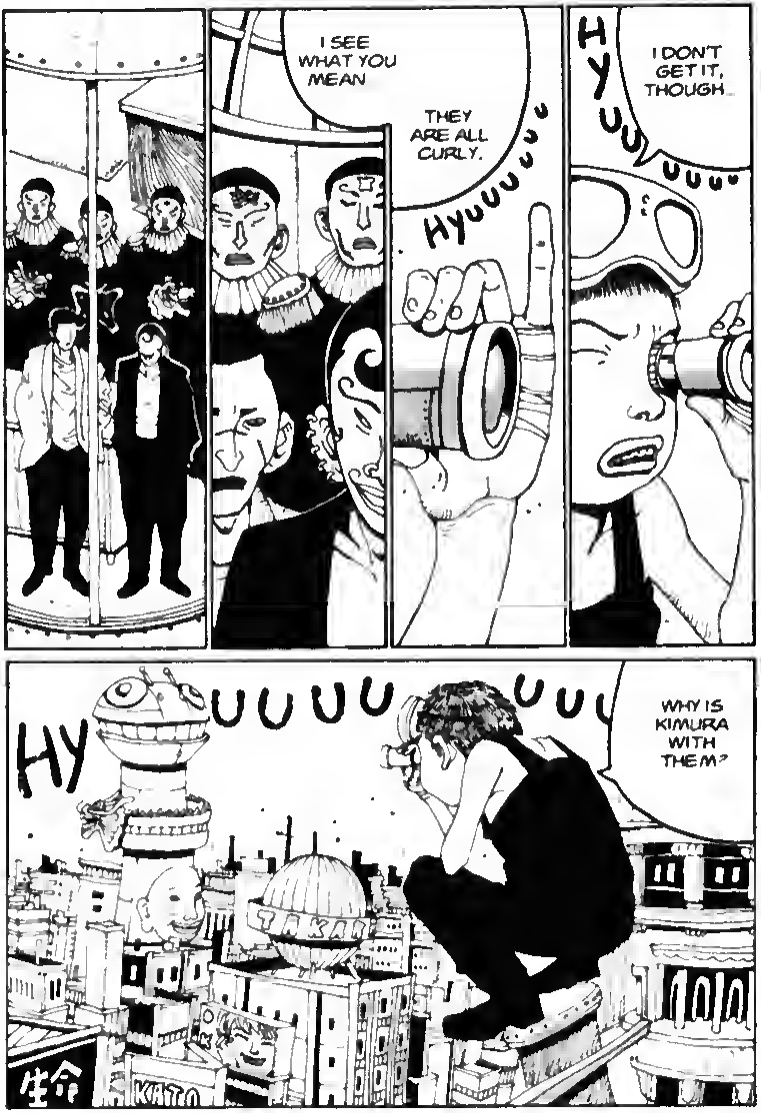
-WWCH.

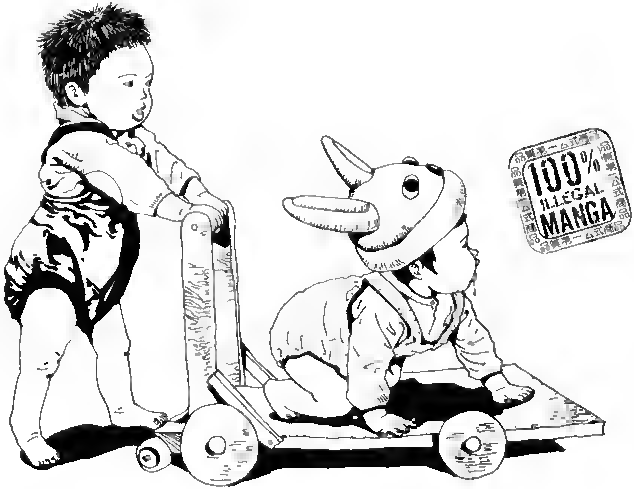
HUH!?
shplat

HyU
UUUUU
Push on


HEY HEY HEY HEY!
TMP TMP TMP
BLACK BLACK BLACK BLACK!
WHERE WHERE WHERE WHERE?
くだもの
ケーキ
OH! THERE THERE THERE THERE!
LISTEN LISTEN LISTEN LISTEN!
YOU'RE BACK.
I SAW SOME WEIRD GUYS REAL WEIRD!
OH. THAT'S NICE.

IT'S NOT NICE! THEY WERE REAL SCARY
AND KINDA CURLY
"CURLY"?
THREE OF 'EM. THEY WAS HUMUNGOUS!
HMM.
THEY'LL COME TO THIS SIDE
THREE ASSASSINS
HEY, WHITE.
YEAH?
WHERE'S THE ICE CREAM?
OH—


I SEE WHAT YOU MEAN
THEY ARE ALL CURLY.
HYUUUUUU
HYUUUUUU
I DON'T GET IT, THOUGH...
HYUUUUUUUUUU
WHY IS KIMURA WITH THEM?
TAKAO
KHATO



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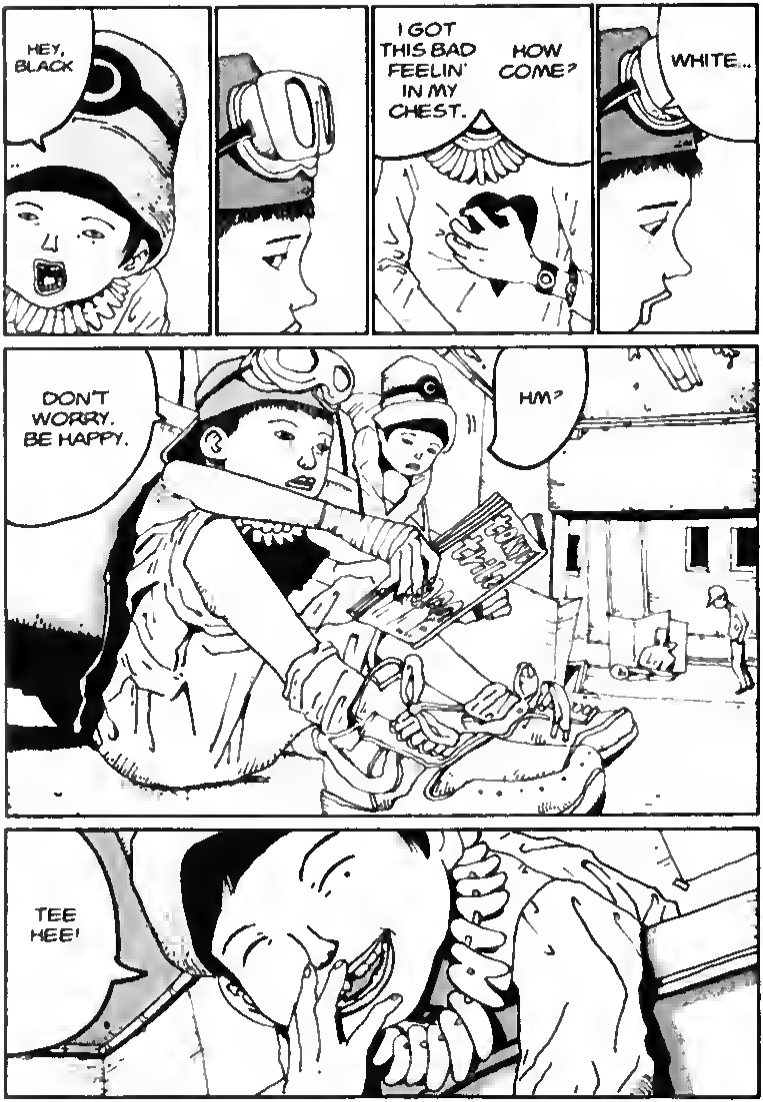
SKIRMISH 16

THE POWER OF THREE

ASPHALT HAS ITS OWN SPECIAL SMELL.
WHILE
SOPHIE'S BREASTS
DIDJA EVER NOTICE THAT, BLACK?
...
tokyo tribe
IT SMELLS DIFFERENT IN SUMMER AN' WINTER AN' IN THE MORNIN' AND AT NIGHTTIME.
BUT I LIKES IT BEST AFTER IT RAINS!
IT SMELLS LIKE MARGARINE THEN.


HEY, BLACK
I GOT THIS BAD FEELIN' IN MY CHEST.
HOW COME?
WHITE..
DON'T WORRY. BE HAPPY.
HM?
TEE HEE!

YOU FELLOWS ARE SO SO
TALL!
YOU BRING THEM WHEREVER YOU GO BUT WHAT THE HELL ARE THEY? PART OF YOUR DECOR?
HEH HEH. YOU AMUSE ME.

BUTTERFLY, TIGER, AND DRAGON ARE MY STRENGTH
WE COOPERATE TOWARDS A COMMON GOAL
THEY PROVIDE THE BRAWN, I PROVIDE THE BRAINS
MUSCLE BOUND THUGS AREN'T GOOD FOR MUCH. TAKE CHOCOLATE, FOR EXAMPLE
WE AUGMENT EACH OTHER'S ABILITIES, AND TOGETHER WE STRIVE FOR PERFECTION
ALLOW ME TO GIVE YOU A TASTE OF THEIR POWER
HUH?
W-WAIT! I DIDN'T MEAN...
非可逆的!!
非常に

KONK
LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE SETTING UP SOME KIND OF STREET ENTERTAINMENT. MIMES?
KLOP
HE CAN HANDLE MOST JOBS ON HIS OWN.
DRAGON IS OUR THIRD MAN.
WHAT LANGUAGE IS THAT?

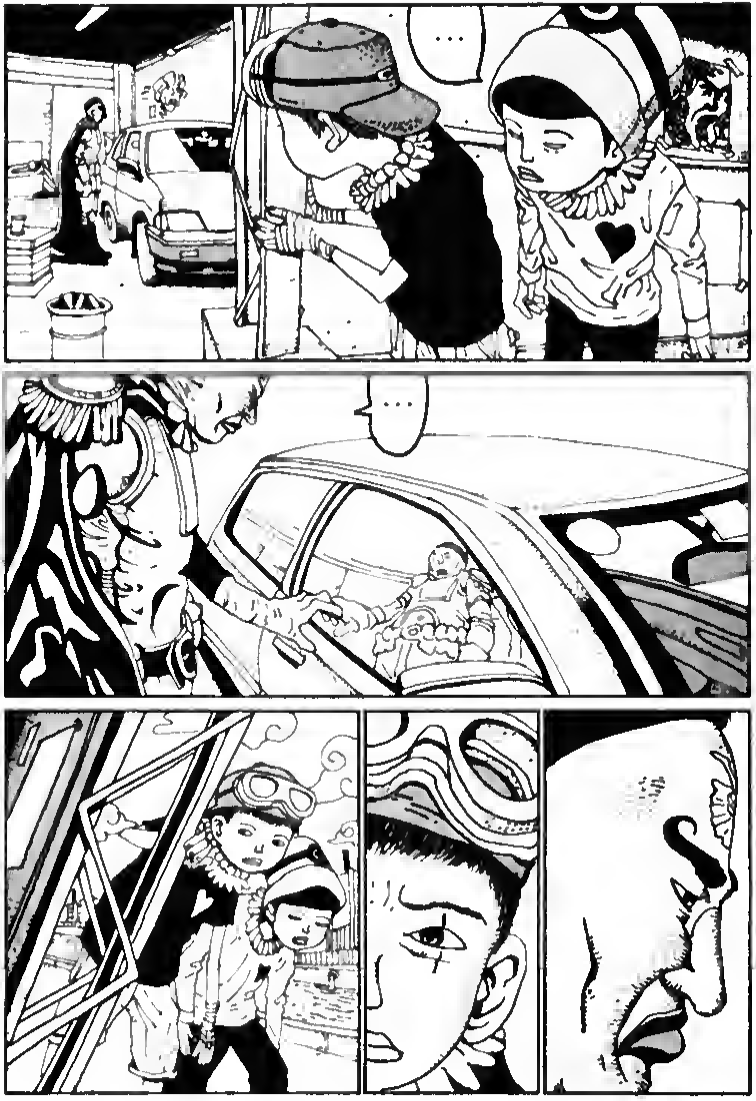
HUH?!
WHOOSH
HYOOO
WHA-!?
HEY!
HYUUUUUUU

HE'LL BE SQUASHED!
...
NO THANKS
I DON'T SMOKE
DON'T WORRY ABOUT HIM HE'S OFF TO EXTERMINATE THE CATS
"CATS"?
HE'LL CLEAN UP THE CITY
HOOOOH

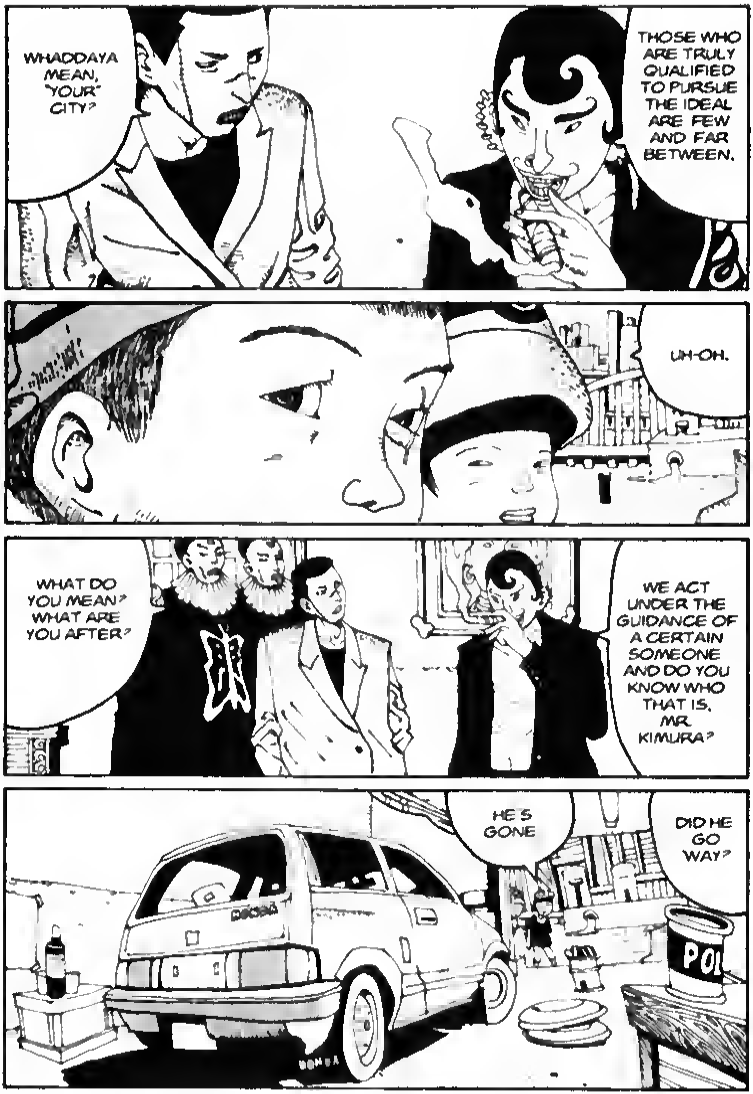
...
WHAT'S UP?
KNOW WHAT?
WHAT'S THE MATTER, WHITE? YOU'VE BEEN ACTING FUNNY ALL DAY
I GOT THE HEEBIE-JEEBIES REAL BAD. REAL BAD.

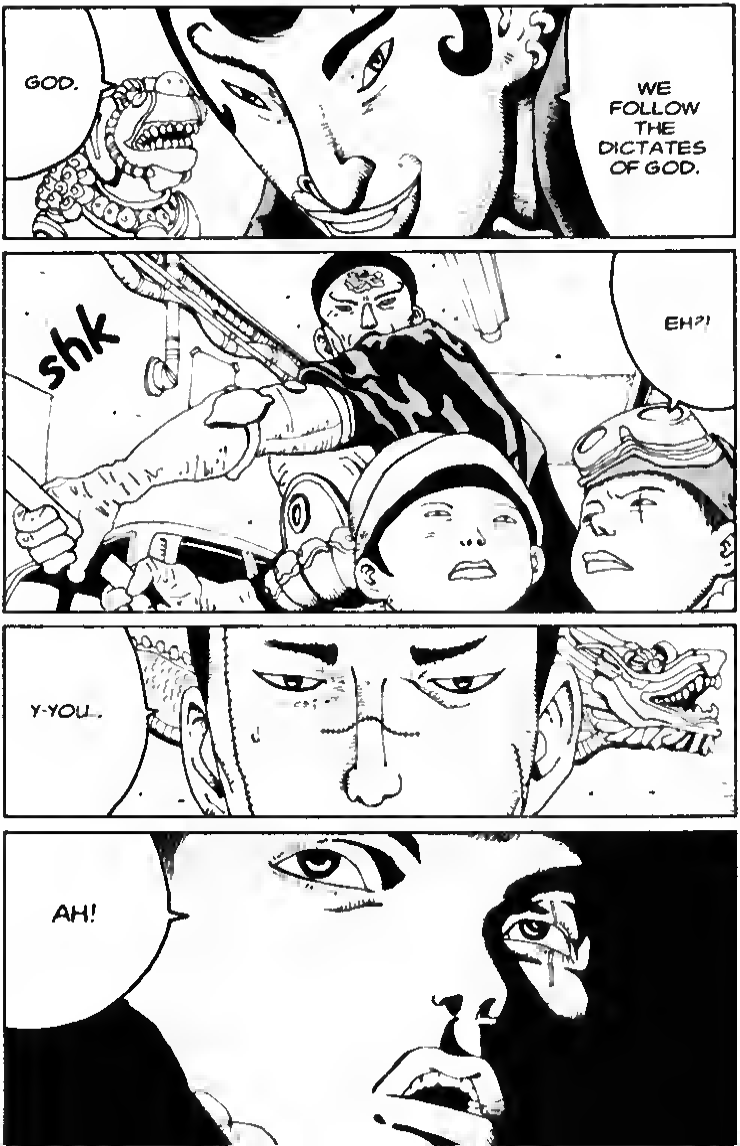
YOU'RE NOT TALKING ABOUT BLACK AND WHITE, ARE YOU?
WHY DO PEOPLE CALL THEM CATS?
DON'T DO IT
WE'LL TAKE CARE OF THEM OURSELVES. KEEP YOUR NOSES OUT OF OUR BUSINESS.
I KNOW WHAT TRANSPIRED BETWEEN YOU AND BLACK
THOSE SCARS...

BUT WE'RE NOT DISPOSING OF THEM TO AVENGE YOU
WE'RE DOING IT FOR THE SAKE OF TREASURE TOWN
WHAT'S YOUR POINT?
IT IS OUR CALLING TO TAKE THOSE ACCUSTOMED TO FOLK MUSIC AND IMMERSE THEM IN CLASSICAL
WHAT DOES THAT HAVE TO DO WITH THE CATS!?
WINNING OVER THE POLICE, JOINING FORCES WITH THE YAKUZA... ALL THAT'S IMPORTANT BUT THAT ISN'T GOING TO CHANGE THE CITY'S ESSENTIAL CHARACTER.
MY CITY MUST CHANGE!



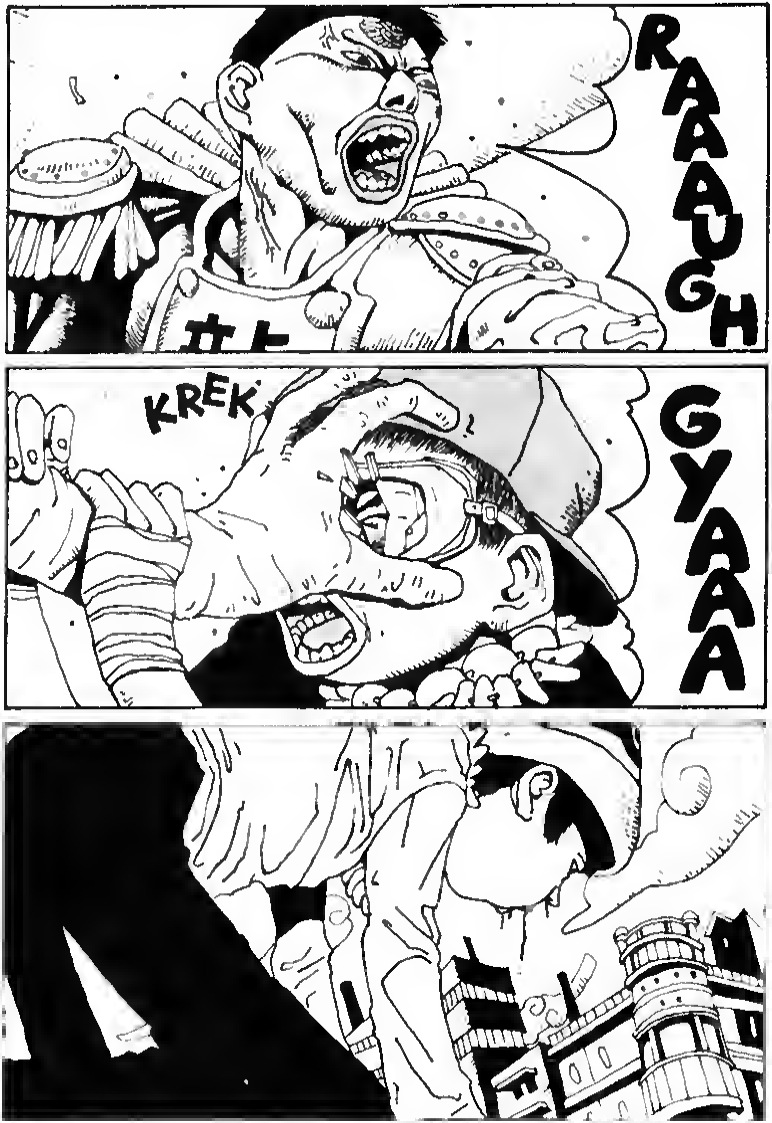
HE'S TOUGH.
WE LEFT OUR WEAPONS IN THE CAR, DIDN'T WE?
ARE WE IN BIG TROUBLE?
....
WE ARE, AREN'T WE?
...

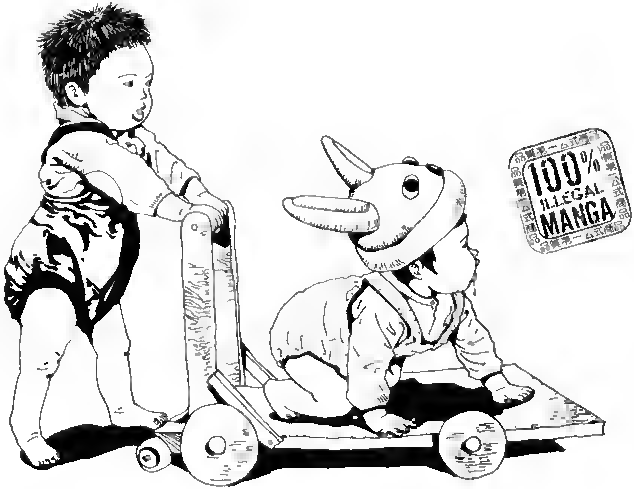

WHADDAYA MEAN, "YOUR" CITY?
THOSE WHO ARE TRULY QUALIFIED TO PURSUE THE IDEAL ARE FEW AND FAR BETWEEN.
UH-OH.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN? WHAT ARE YOU AFTER?
WE ACT UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF A CERTAIN SOMEONE AND DO YOU KNOW WHO THAT IS, MR. KIMURA?
HE'S GONE
DID HE GO WAY?
HONDA


GOD.
WE FOLLOW THE DICTATES OF GOD.
shk
EH?!
Y-YOU..
AH!

THUNK
GACK!

WE OBEY THE WILL OF THE CREATOR
!!
ARGH
GRMP
WE WILL REIGN OVER THIS CITY ACCORDING TO THE LORD'S DECREE
SHH
SHH
SHH
SHH
MAY THE LORD BE WITH US


RAAUGH
KREK
GYAAA



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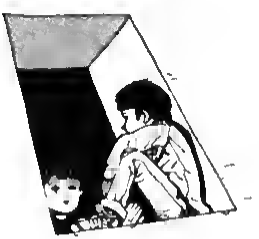
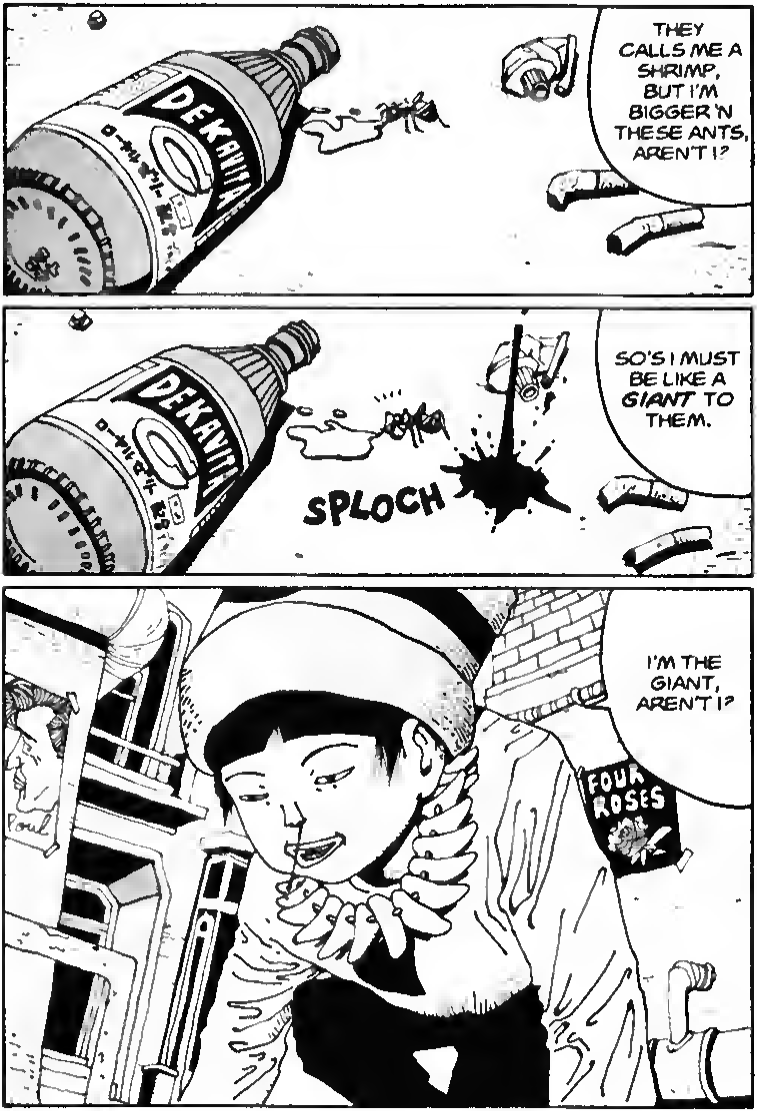
SKIRMISH 17

STRIP-JOINT MEMORIES




DEKANTA
THEY CALLS ME A SHRIMP, BUT I'M BIGGER 'N THESE ANTS, AREN'T I?
DEKANTA
SPLOCH
SO'S I MUST BE LIKE A GIANT TO THEM.
I'M THE GIANT, AREN'T I?
FOUR ROSES

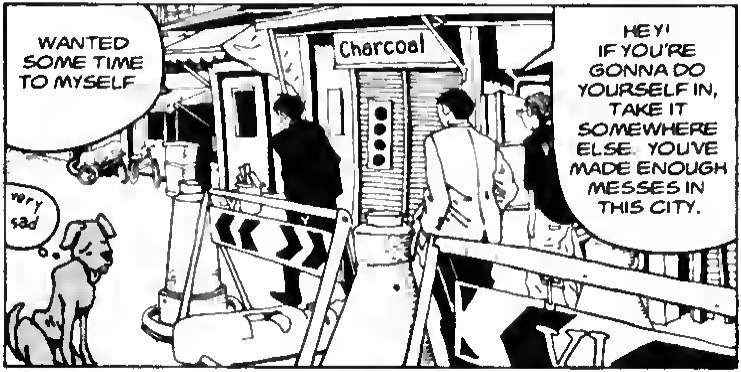
SPOT
GEORGIA
HUH?
JANE
UNH!
SPLUTCH
!!

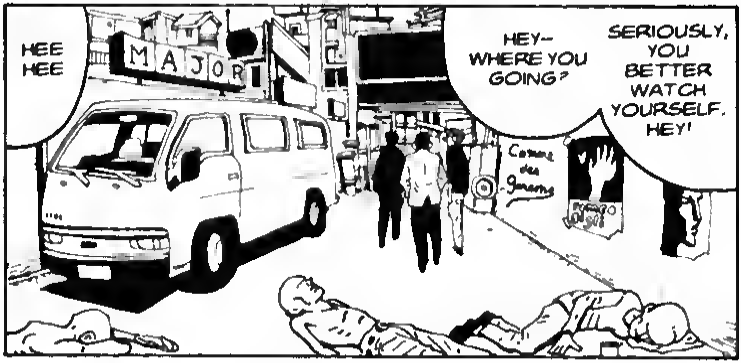
GLOMP
KRCH

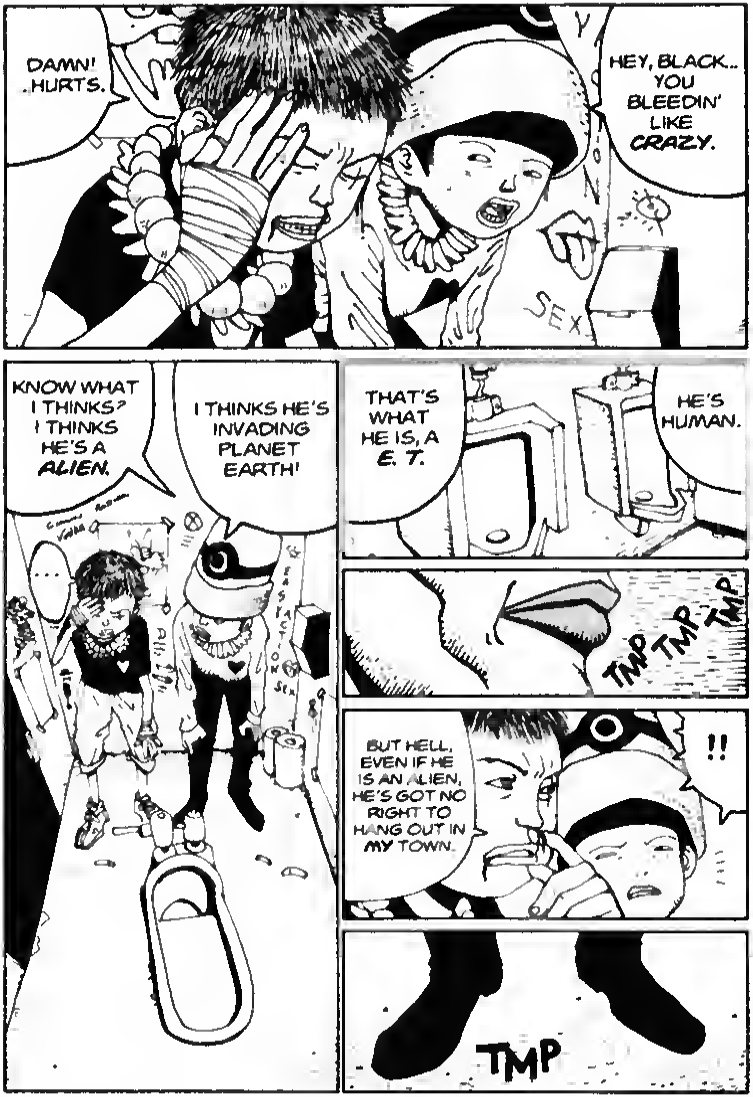
GER
TWO
青龍
THIS WAY, BLACK!!
HURRY, HURRY!!
...
Mick JAGGAR

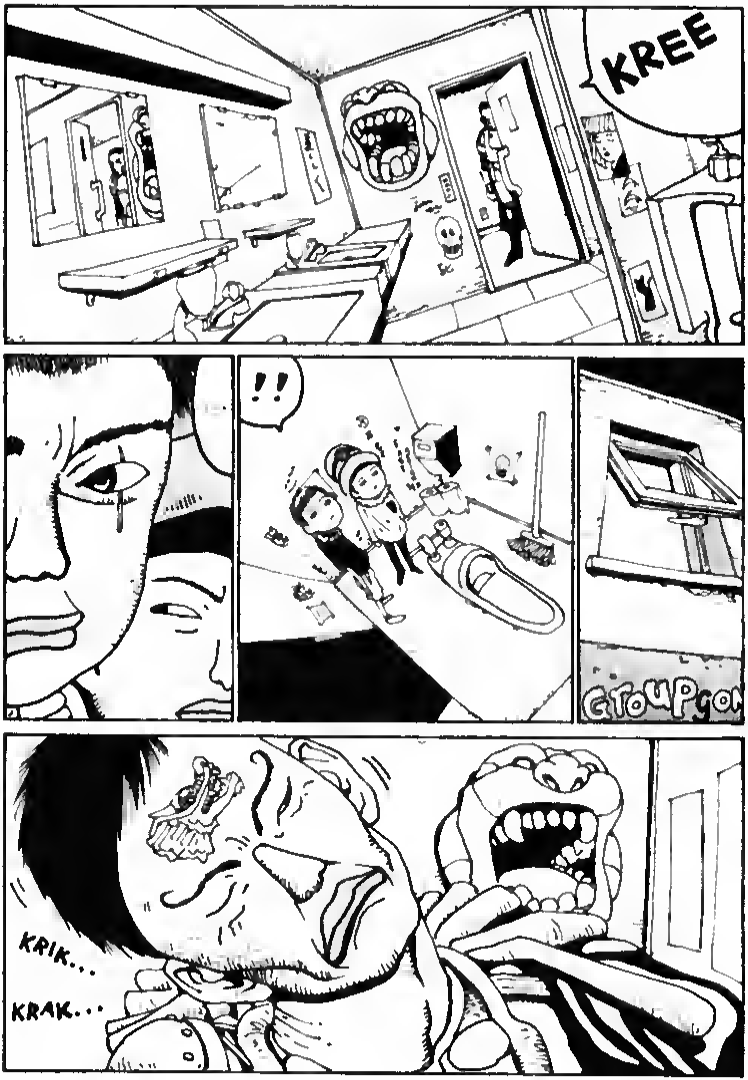
RA-TA-TAT
BRRM BRRM
KLANG KLANG
WARNING HARD HAT ZONE
SAFETY FIRST
RA-TA-TAT
RA-TA-TA-TAT
NO TRESPASSING
SOLITUDE
A SENTI-MENTAL MOMENT FOR THE RAT, EH?

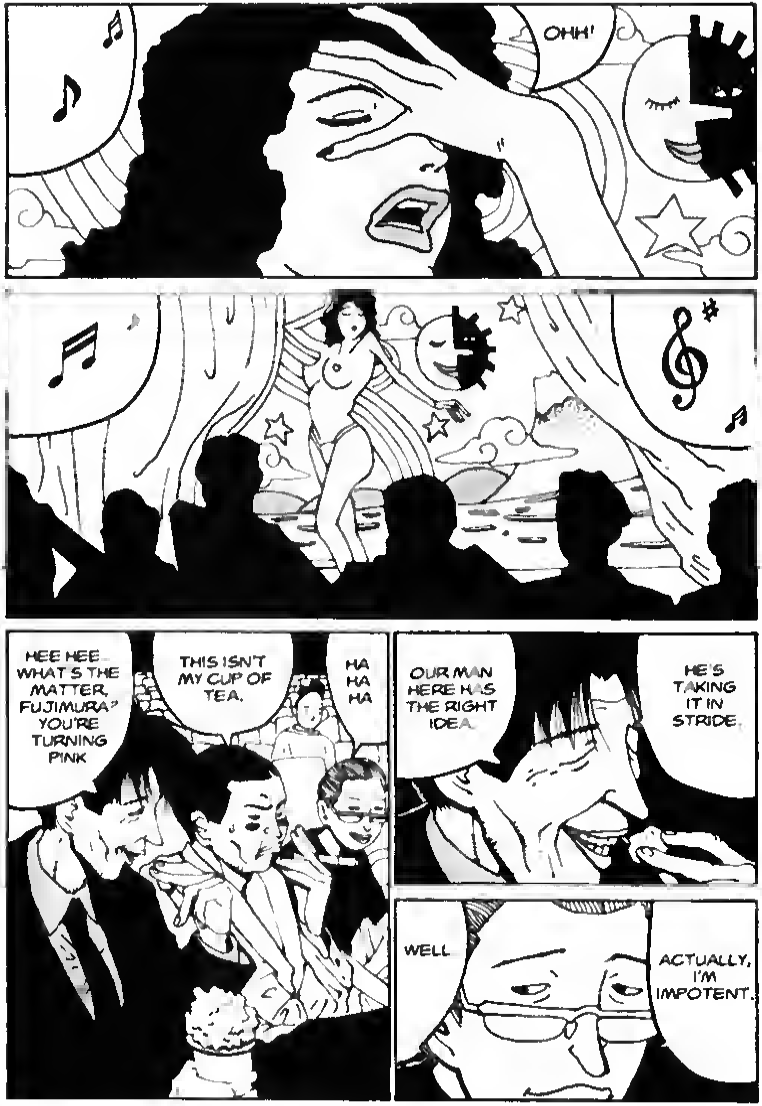
HEE HEE HEE
YOU ALL ALONE, RAT?
WHERE'S YOUR TROOPS?
FWIK

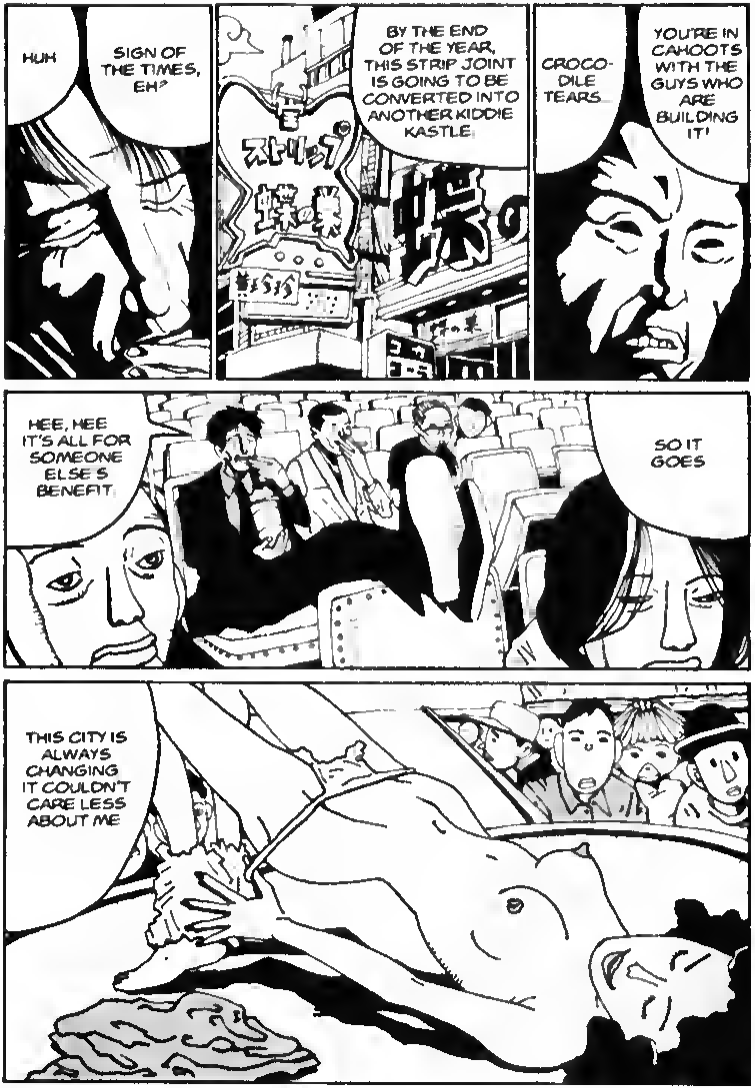

WANTED SOME TIME TO MYSELF
Charcoal
HEY! IF YOU'RE GONNA DO YOURSELF IN, TAKE IT SOMEWHERE ELSE. YOU'VE MADE ENOUGH MESSES IN THIS CITY.
very sad


HEE HEE
MAJOR
HEY- WHERE YOU GOING?
SERIOUSLY, YOU BETTER WATCH YOURSELF. HEY!

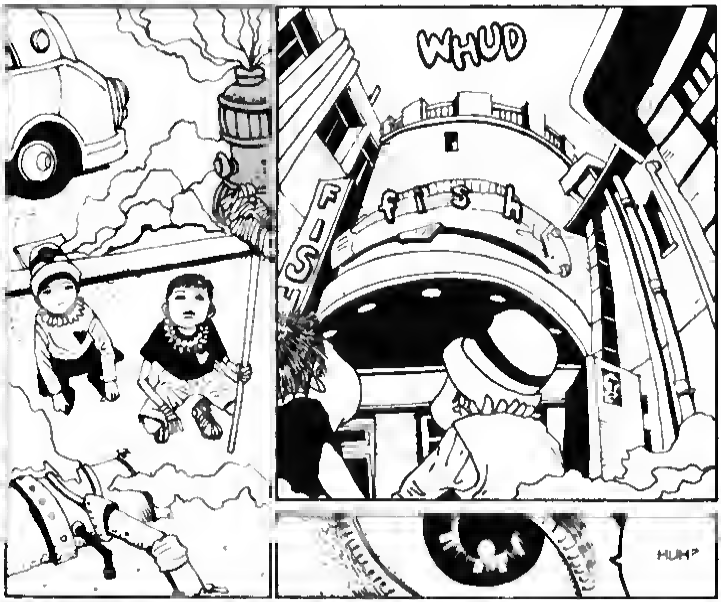

DAMN! .HURTS.
HEY, BLACK.. YOU BLEEDIN' LIKE CRAZY.
SEX
KNOW WHAT I THINKS? I THINKS HE'S A ALIEN.
I THINKS HE'S INVADING PLANET EARTH!
THAT'S WHAT HE IS, A E.T.
HE'S HUMAN.
TMP TMP TMP
BUT HELL, EVEN IF HE IS AN ALIEN, HE'S GOT NO RIGHT TO HANG OUT IN MY TOWN.
!!
TMP


KREE
!!
KRIK...
KRAK...


OHH!
HEE HEE WHAT'S THE MATTER, FUJIMURA? YOU'RE TURNING PINK
THIS ISN'T MY CUP OF TEA.
HA HA HA
OUR MAN HERE HAS THE RIGHT IDEA.
HE'S TAKING IT IN STRIDE.
WELL
ACTUALLY, I'M IMPOTENT.


HUH
SIGN OF THE TIMES, EH?
BY THE END OF THE YEAR, THIS STRIP JOINT IS GOING TO BE CONVERTED INTO ANOTHER KIDDIE KASTLE.
CROCO-DILE TEARS.
YOU'RE IN CAHOOTS WITH THE GUYS WHO ARE BUILDING IT!
HEE, HEE IT'S ALL FOR SOMEONE ELSE'S BENEFIT.
SO IT GOES
THIS CITY IS ALWAYS CHANGING IT COULDN'T CARE LESS ABOUT ME

KREKT
光
SLAMM
Peace
HYUU

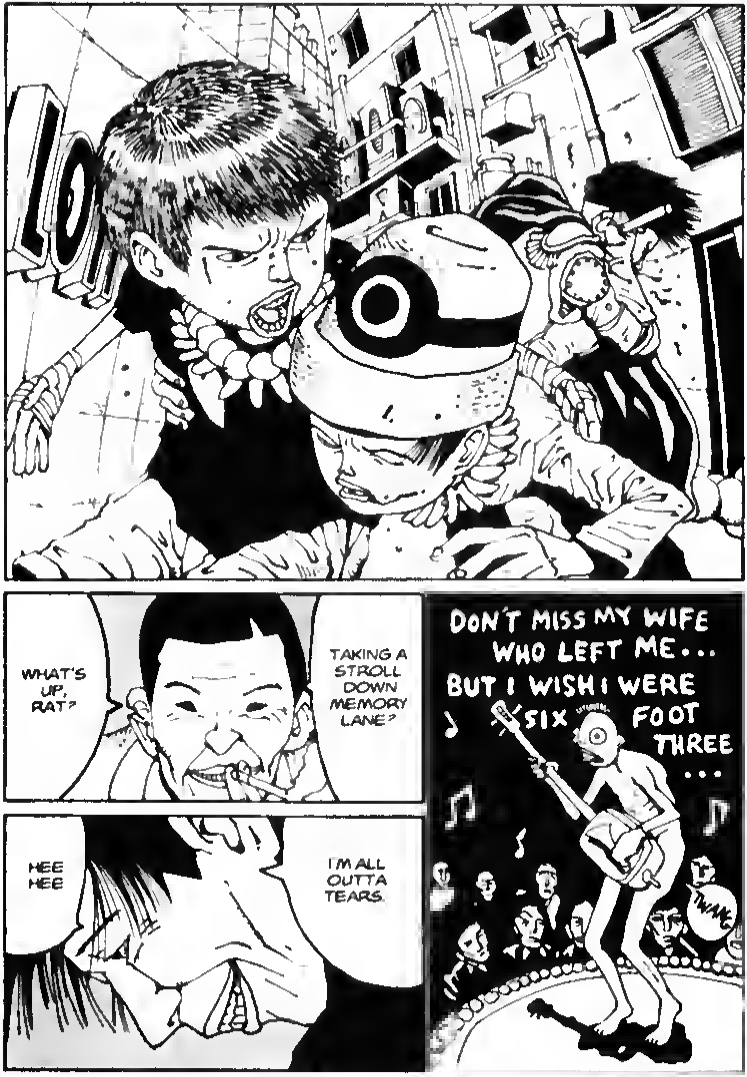

WHUD
HUH?

KRESH
HA
HA

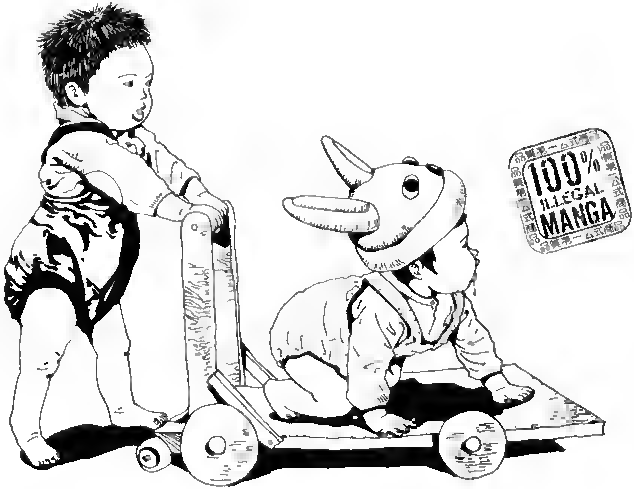
I LEARNED ALL THE ROPES IN THIS TOWN
LIQUOR, SMOKING, GAMBLING, WOMEN... ALL THE INS AND OUTS.
I USED TO LOVE THIS TOWN, FUJIMURA.
EVEN AFTER I GOT FED UP WITH YOU COPS CHASING ME AROUND ALL THE TIME AND SPLIT...

ALL I COULD EVER THINK ABOUT WAS TREASURE TOWN.
AND NOW I COME BACK AND WHAT DO I FIND? A WHOLE DIFFERENT CITY...
THUD
WHUD
WAUGH!

TREASURE TOWN HAS TURNED INTO THE KIND OF PLACE WHERE YOU HAVE TO STOP AND THINK BEFORE YOU SPIT ON THE SIDEWALK
KRAK
THIS ISN'T THE CITY I USED TO KNOW AND LOVE
IT'S COLD.


WHAT'S UP, RAT?
TAKING A STROLL DOWN MEMORY LANE?
HEE HEE
I'M ALL OUTTA TEARS.
DON'T MISS MY WIFE WHO LEFT ME... BUT I WISH I WERE SIX FOOT THREE ...

TMP
TMP
ACID
TMP
TMP
HEY HEY HEY!
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU, MAN!?
I HATES THIS...
EH?
I HATES THIS
...STOOPID CITY...
HEH.



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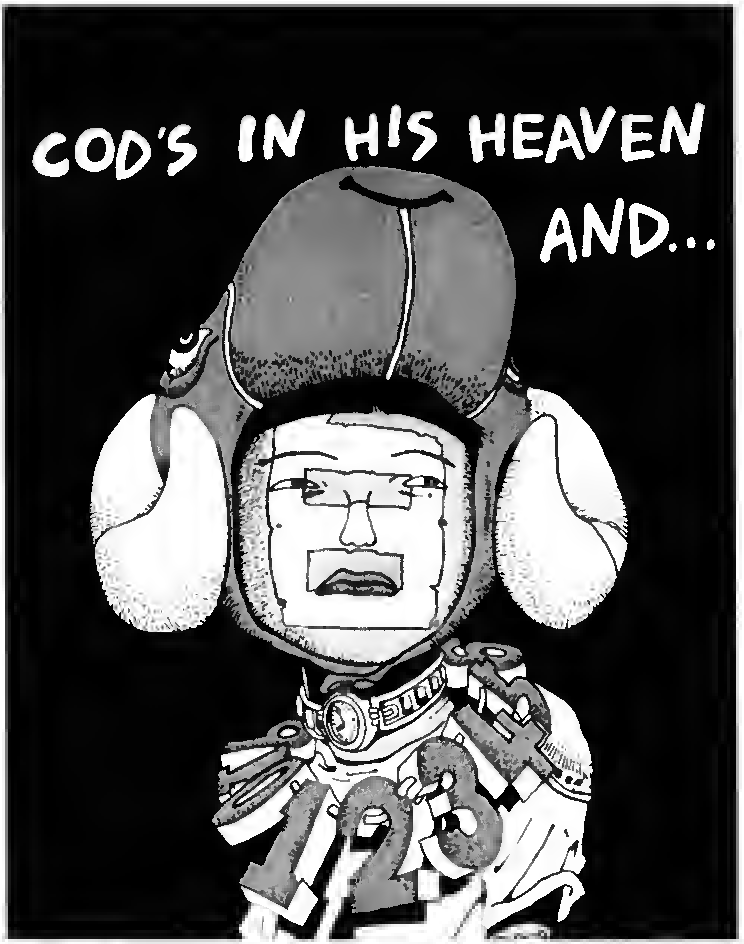
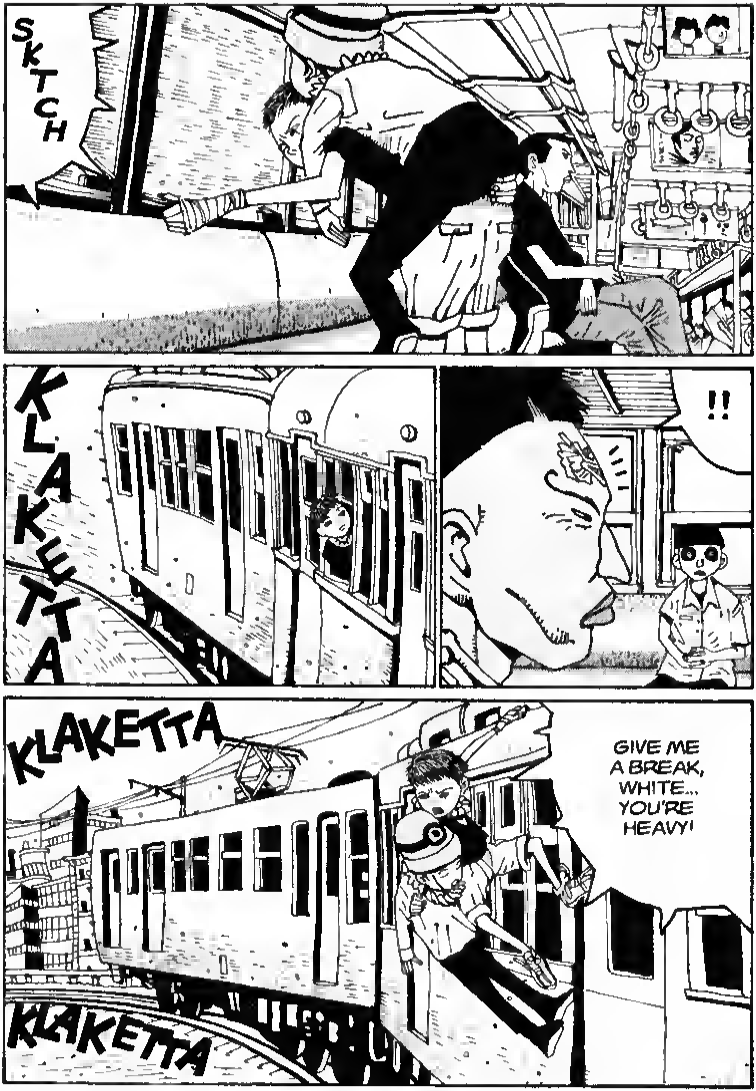
SKIRMISH 18

WHITE FLIES



HUF
HFF
HUF
KLAKETTA
DOOM
DOOM
DOOM
KLAKETTA

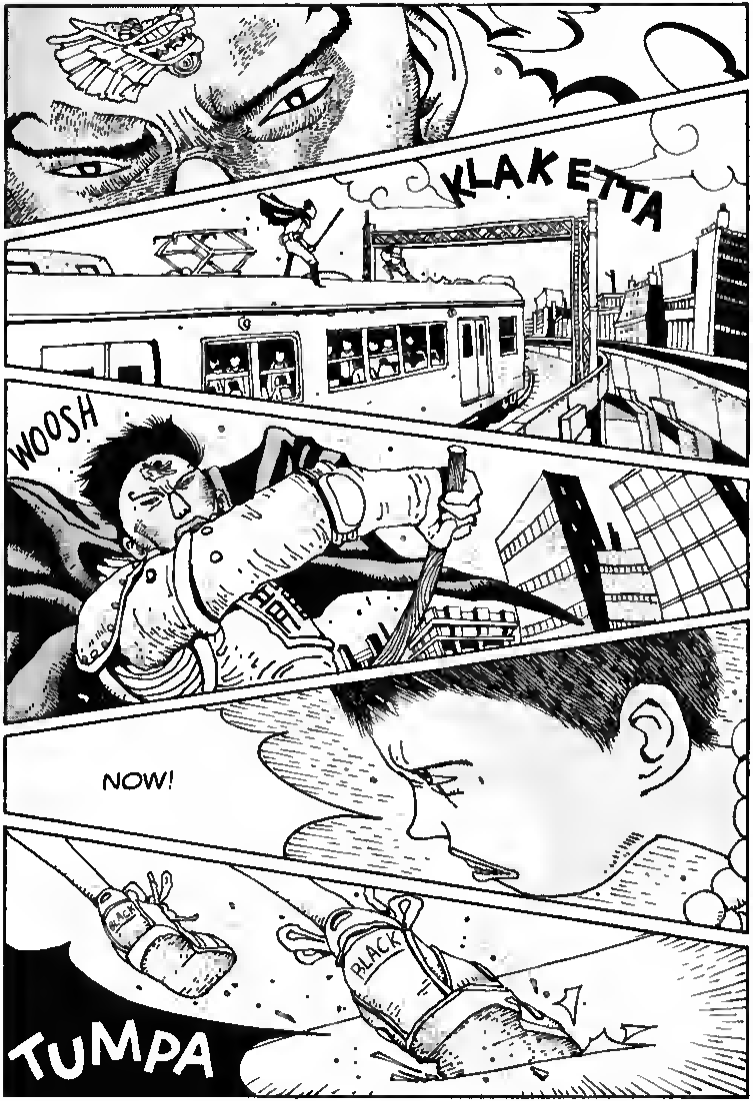
HUF
HFF
HUF
DOOM
DOOM
DOOM
DOOM
HUF
HFF
WHAT IS—
THIS GUY'S DAMAGE?


SKTCH
KLAKETTA
!!
KLAKETTA
GIVE ME A BREAK, WHITE... YOU'RE HEAVY!
KLAKETTA

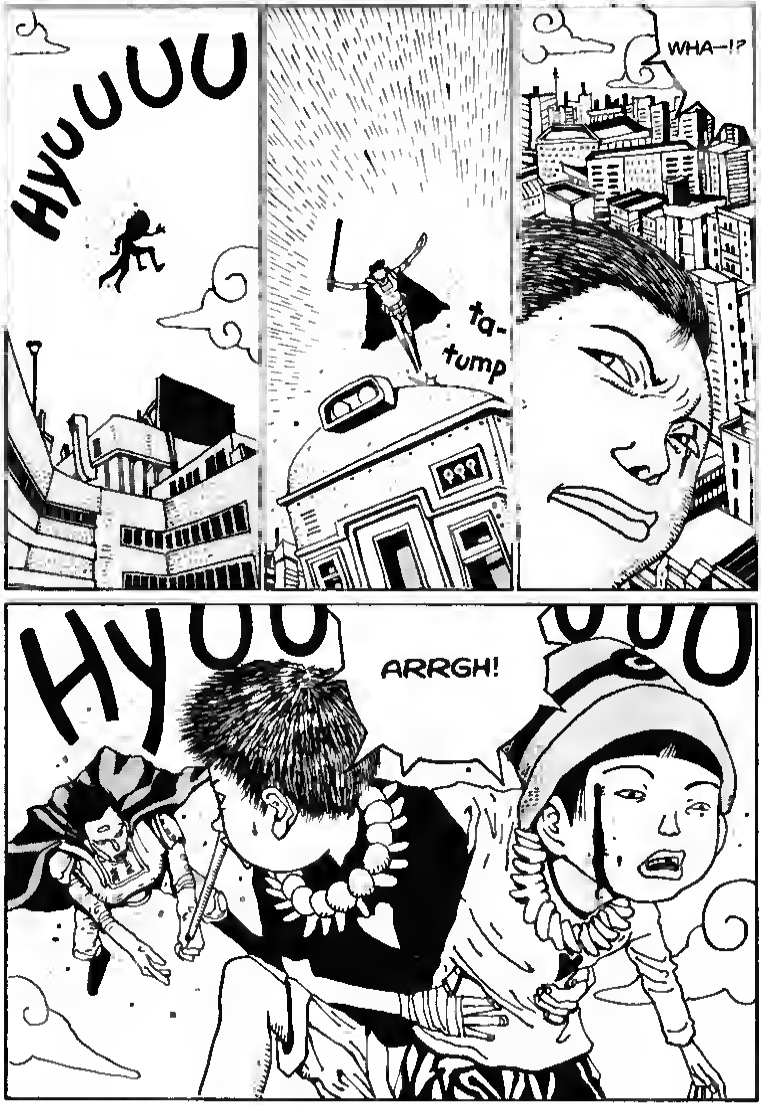
KLAKETTA
KLAKETTA
WAKE UP, DAMN IT! SNAP OUT OF IT!!
HEY, BLACK.. I JUST GOTS A REAL GOOD IDEA.
Miles
WHOA!
WE'LL BUILD A HOUSE BY THE SEA..
ENOUGH ALREADY!
AND WE'LL PAINT IT BLUE.. SO IT'LL BE A PART OF THE SKY, TEE HEE..
KLAKETTA
STOP IT, WHITE! STOP IT!
!!!

KLAKETTA

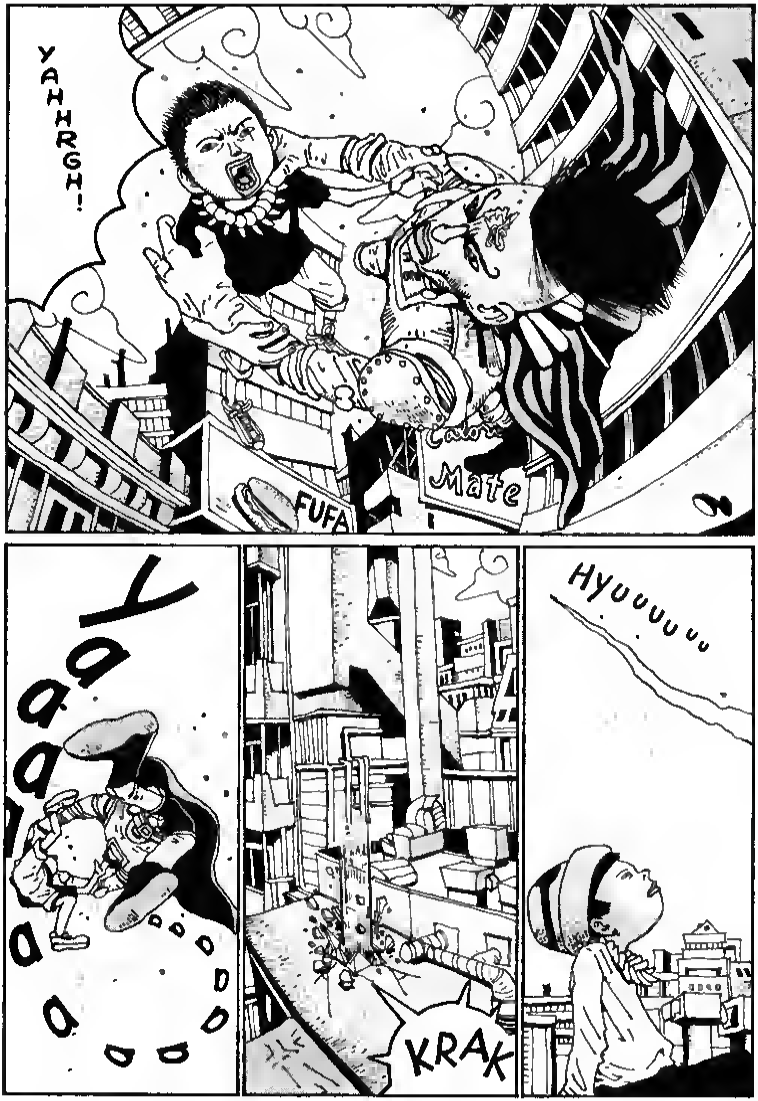
KLAKETTA


KLAKETTA
WOOSH
NOW!
BLACK
BLACK
TUMPA

TUMP
HYUUUUUUU
KLAKETTA
YAHHH!


HYUUUU
ta-
tump
WHA—!?
ARRGH!

HEY...!
AIEEE
KA-WHUMP
OWW-
FWEEEEE
YAHH!
-CH.

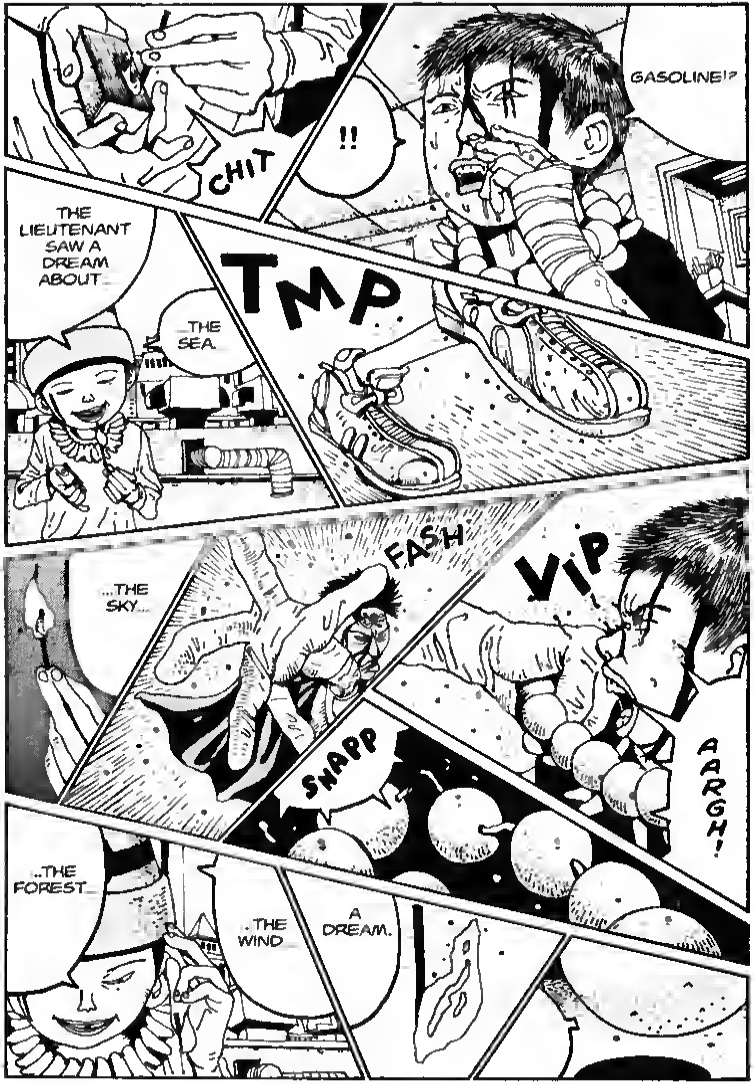

YAHHRGH!
FUFA
Mate
Hyuuuuuu
KRAK

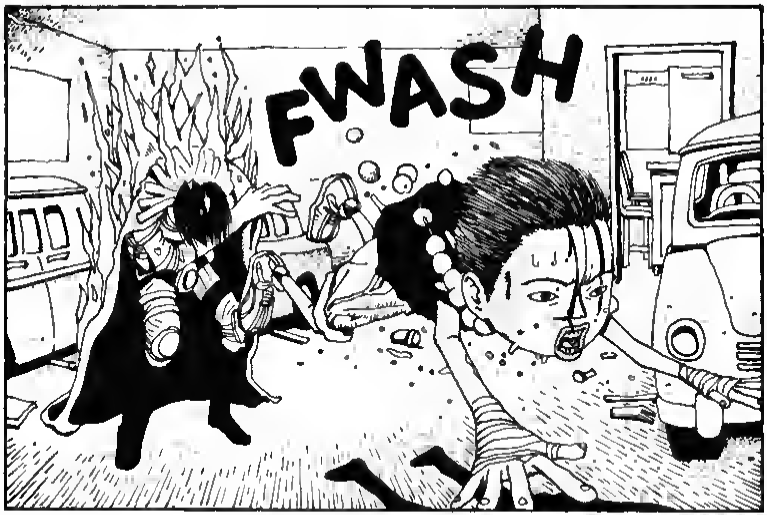
HUF
HFF
HFF
HUF
HUF
HFF
DAMN! SCARED THE CRAP OUT OF ME.
HUF
I'VE GOT TO GET ME SOME RELIGION.
HFF

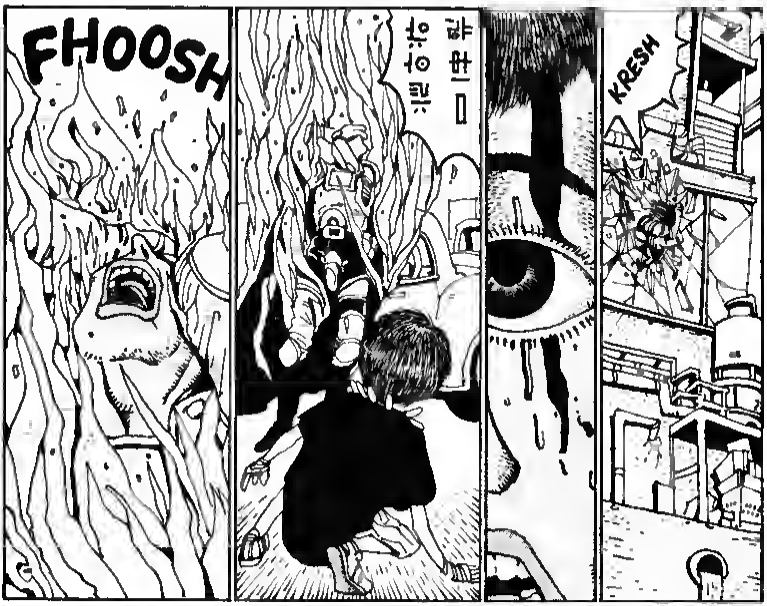
THIS IS RIDICULOUS.
I CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE.
HOPE WHITE'S ALL RIGHT.
WHO WAS THIS GUY, ANYWAY...
!
EH?

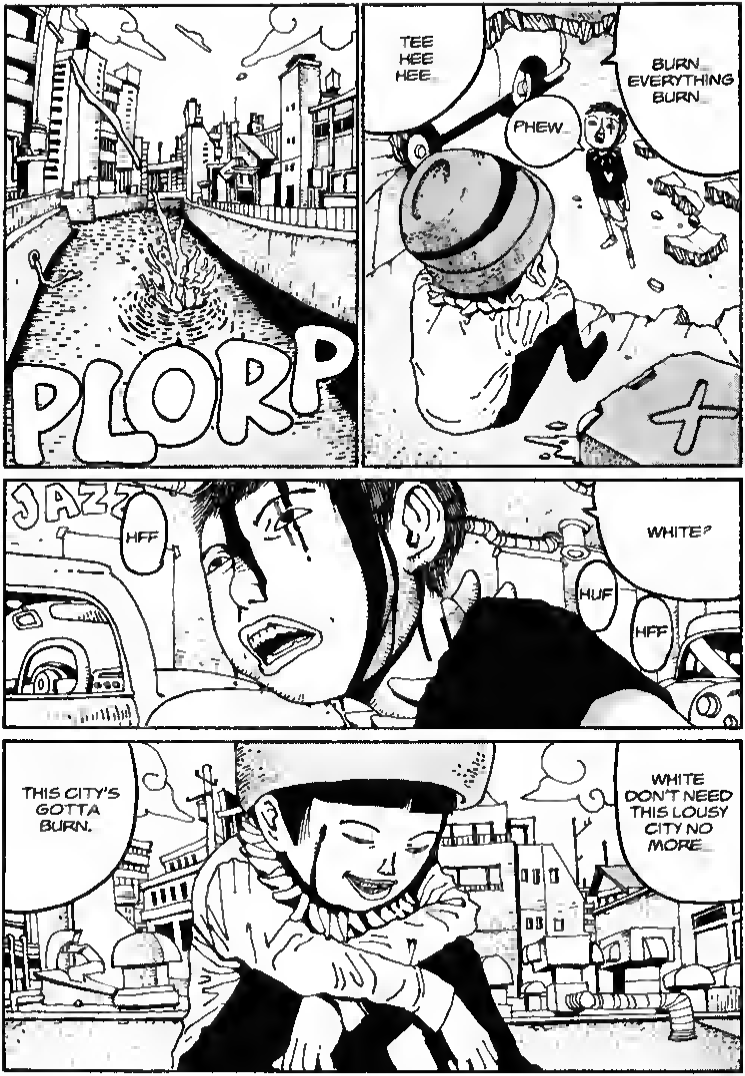
ARRGH!!
SHAAA
AIIEE!

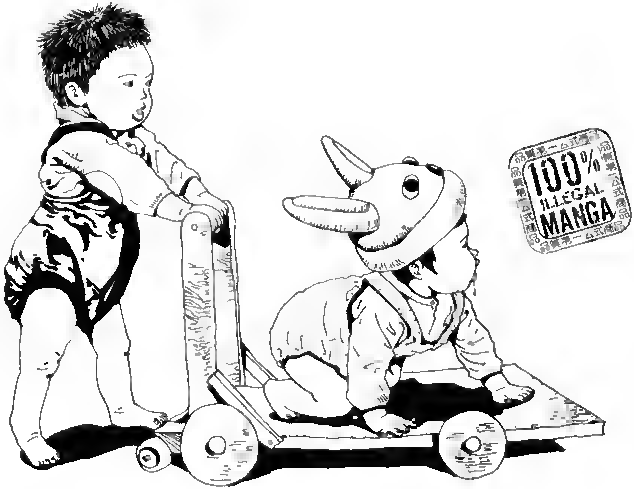
SPLOOSH
HUH!?
HEE HEE.
WHITE!!
LIEUTENANT WHITE— THAT'S ME— FROM PLANET EARTH IS HERE..
—TO EXTERMINATE THE ALIEN.


GASOLINE!?
!!
CHIT
THE LIEUTENANT SAW A DREAM ABOUT...
...THE SEA.
TMP
...THE SKY...
FASH
VIP
AARGH!
SNAPP
...THE FOREST...
...THE WIND...
A DREAM.


FWASH


FHOOSH
KRESH


PLORP
TEE HEE HEE...
PHEW...
BURN... EVERYTHING BURN...
JAZZ
HFF
WHITE?
HUF
HFF
THIS CITY'S GOTTA BURN.
WHITE DON'T NEED THIS LOUSY CITY NO MORE...



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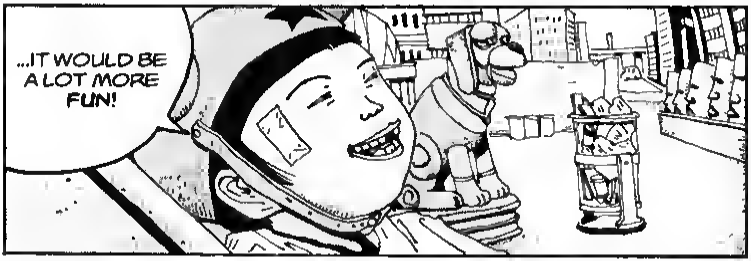
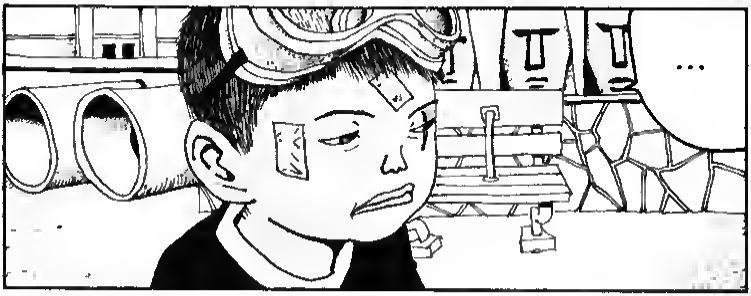
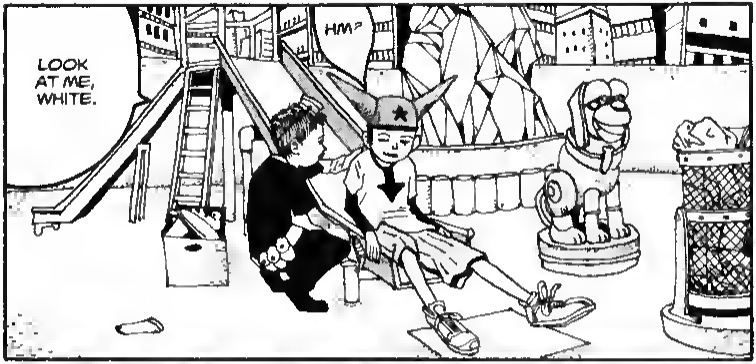
SKIRMISH 19

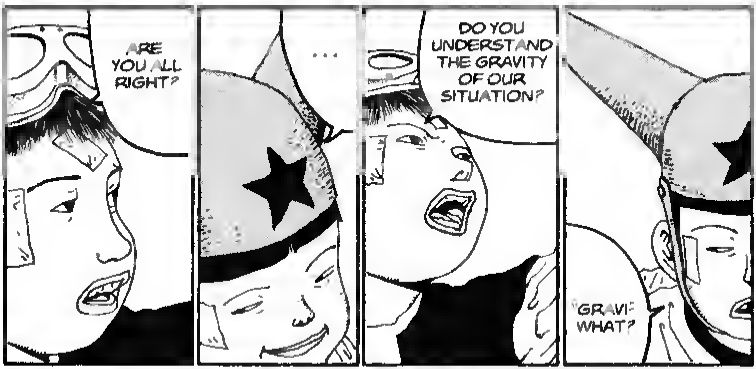
LIEUTENANT WHITE DOES NOT REMAIN ON STANDBY

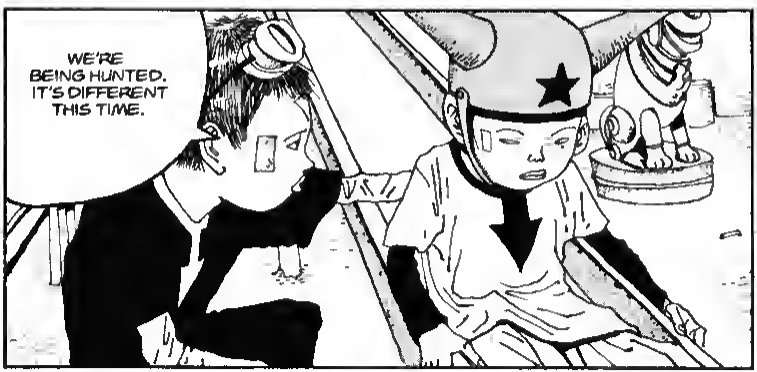
TEE HEE
IF EVERYTHIN' WENT SLOWER..

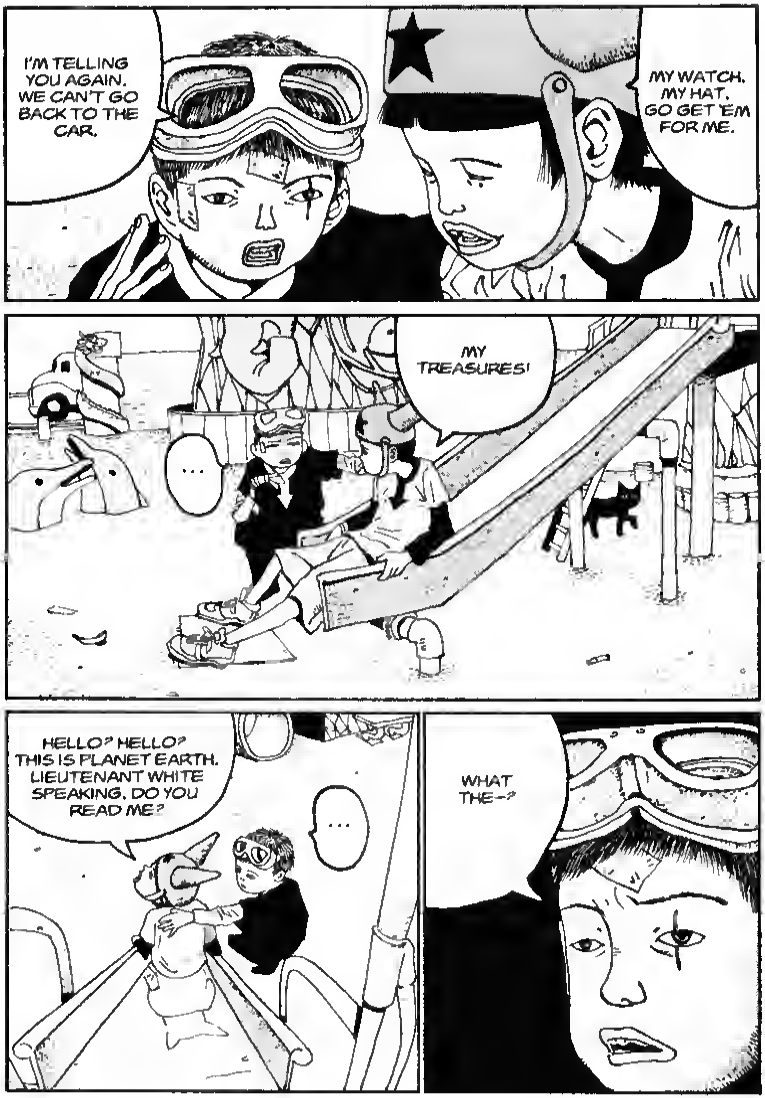

...IT WOULD BE A LOT MORE FUN!

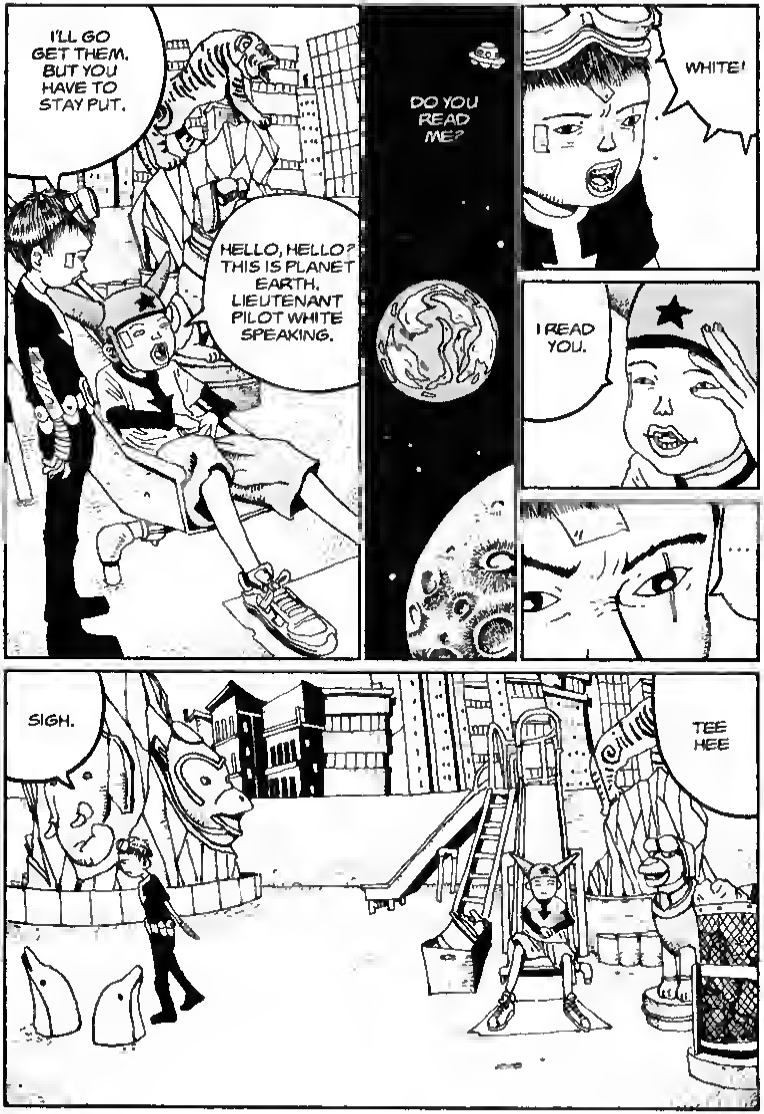

...


LOOK AT ME, WHITE.
HM?


ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
...
DO YOU UNDERSTAND THE GRAVITY OF OUR SITUATION?
GRAVI- WHAT?


WE'RE BEING HUNTED. IT'S DIFFERENT THIS TIME.


I'M TELLING YOU AGAIN. WE CAN'T GO BACK TO THE CAR.
MY WATCH. MY HAT. GO GET 'EM FOR ME.
MY TREASURES!
...
HELLO? HELLO? THIS IS PLANET EARTH. LIEUTENANT WHITE SPEAKING. DO YOU READ ME?
...
WHAT THE-?


I'LL GO GET THEM. BUT YOU HAVE TO STAY PUT.
HELLO, HELLO? THIS IS PLANET EARTH. LIEUTENANT PILOT WHITE SPEAKING.
DO YOU READ ME?
WHITE!
I READ YOU.
...
SIGH.
TEE HEE

DISGRACEFUL!
HUF
HFF
HUF
I TOLD YOU, MAN. LEAVE THOSE "CATS" TO US LOCALS.
YOU TREAT 'EM LIKE YOUR AVERAGE PUNK..
AND LOOK WHAT HAPPENS.
...

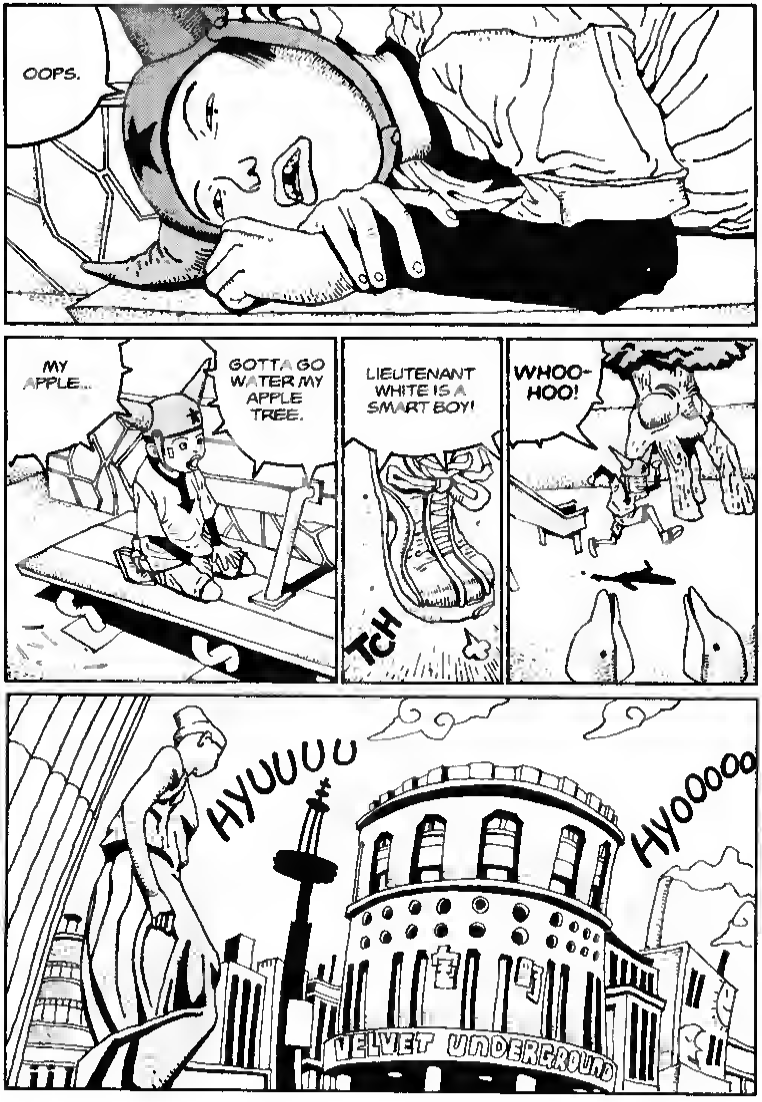
THEY'VE GOT THE ENTIRE CITY ON THEIR SIDE.
THE BUILDINGS, THE ALLEYWAYS, THE LIGHTS— EVERYTHING HERE IS ON THEIR SIDE
FIGHTING THEM IS LIKE TAKING ON THE ENTIRE CITY.
MAY I MAKE AN ENQUIRY...?
EXACTLY WHOSE SIDE ARE YOU ON, ANYWAY?
patt
!?

I
JET INTAKE
SG-4 NAVY
WHAT'S GOING ON?
TO AVENGE NUMBER THREE, WE SHALL EXTERMINATE THE CATS.
"EXTERMI"—
WHAT!?

THEY'RE JUST KIDS, MAN.
TWO STRAY CATS NOT EVEN REGISTERED AS RESIDENTS
NO ONE WILL EVER NOTICE.
WHA-?

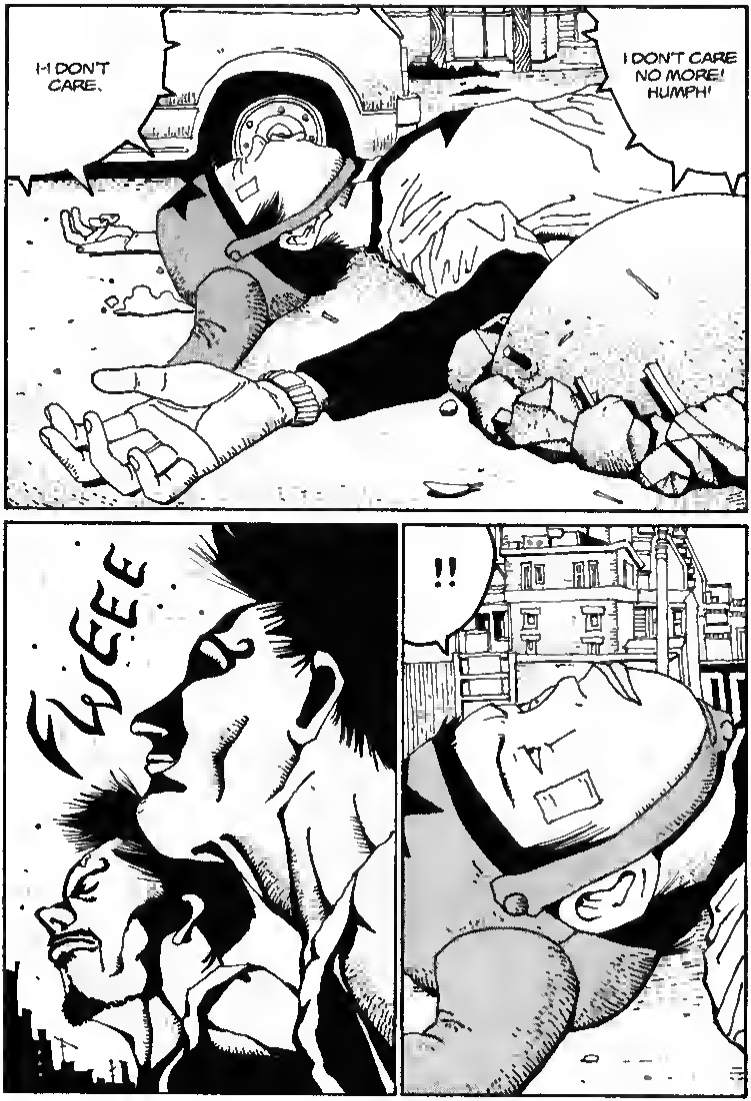
FWUMP
HUH?
HEY, SHRIMP.
...
DIDN'T ANYONE TELL YOU TO SAY YER SORRY.
...WHEN YA BUMP INTA SOMEONE?
SCHOOL FIELD TRIP?
BEG ME TO FORGIVE YA.
...AND I'LL LETCHA GO.
THAT'S RIGHT.

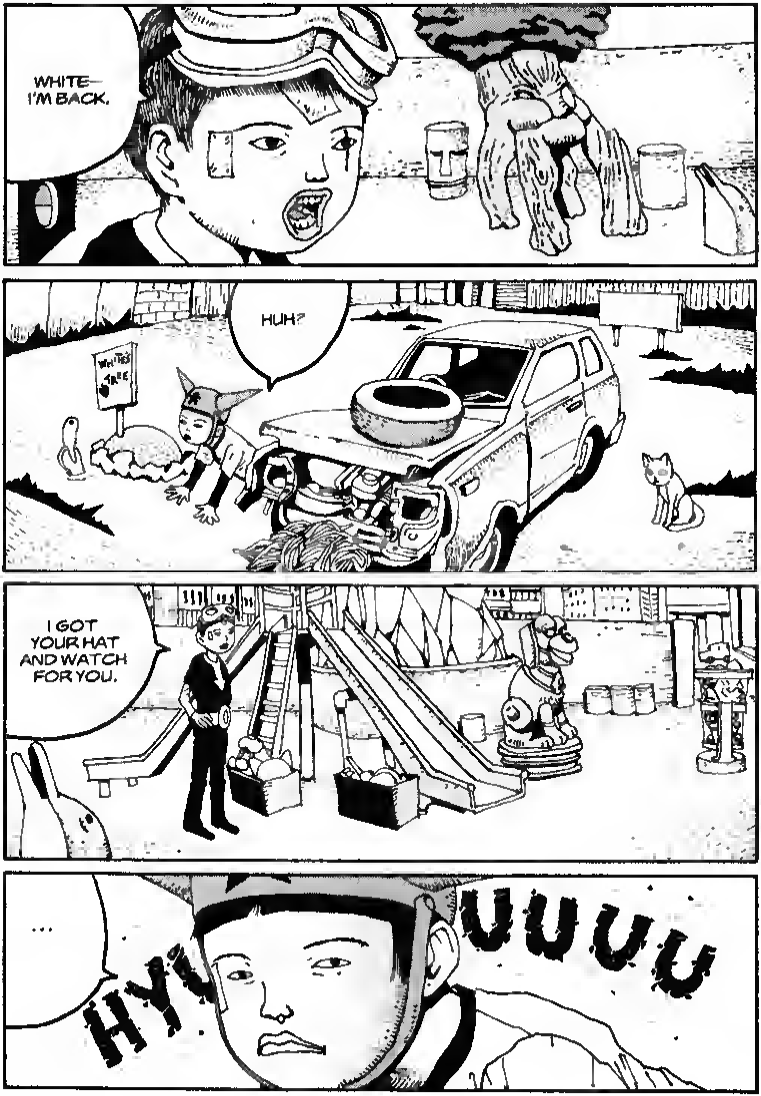
WE SHOULD BE RAKING IT IN THIS TIME OF YEAR AND INSTEAD WHITE'S GOING NUTS ON ME.
WHITE? IS THAT SOME MUTT?
HERE. DIG HERE. ARF ARF!
THATTA BOY.
IT'S MINE..
WHAT'S THAT?
YOU SAY SOMETHING, SHRIMP?
IT'S MY CITY.
SO SHUT THE HELL UP.

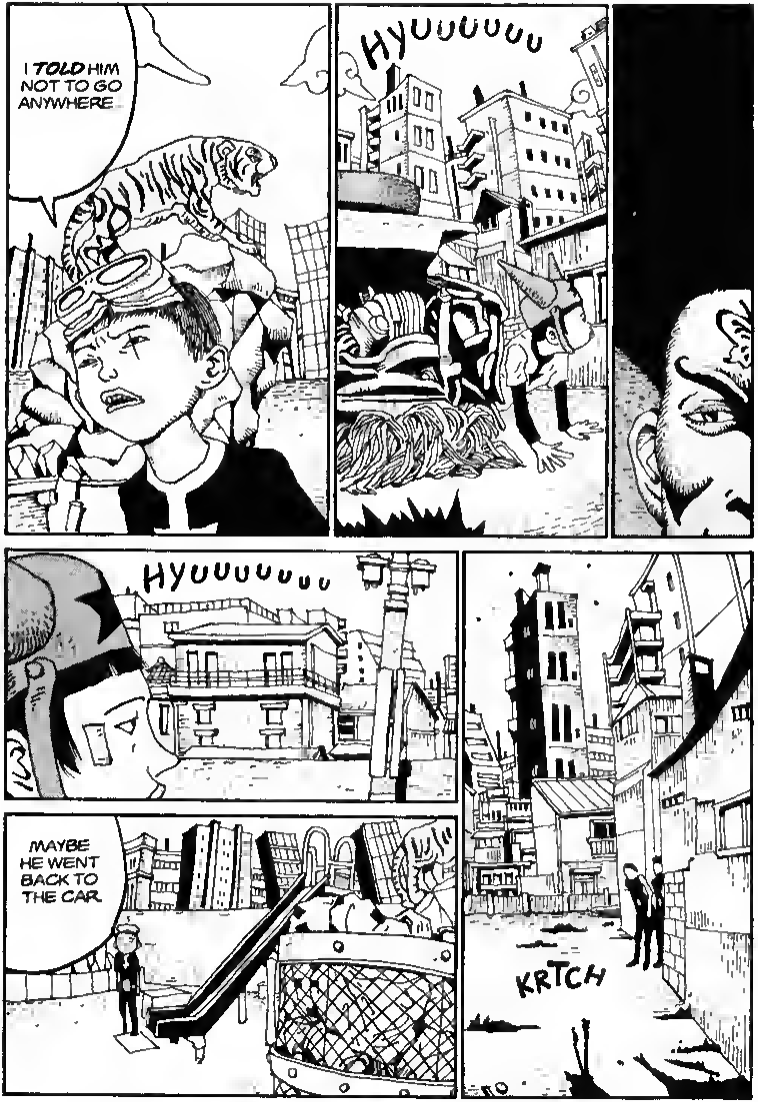

OOPS.
MY APPLE...
GOTTA GO WATER MY APPLE TREE.
LIEUTENANT WHITE IS A SMART BOY!
TCH
WHOO-HOO!
HYUUUU
HYOOOOO
VELVET UNDERGROUND

WHITE HATES WINTER.
WHEN WINTER COMES, HE CRIES ALL THE TIME.
HE DOESN'T LIKE THE STORY ABOUT THE ANT AND THE GRASS-HOPPER.
HE SAYS, "THE POOR GRASS-HOPPER DIDN'T DO NOTHIN' WRONG!"
AND THEN HE CRIES..
WHITE CRIES.
ASCII

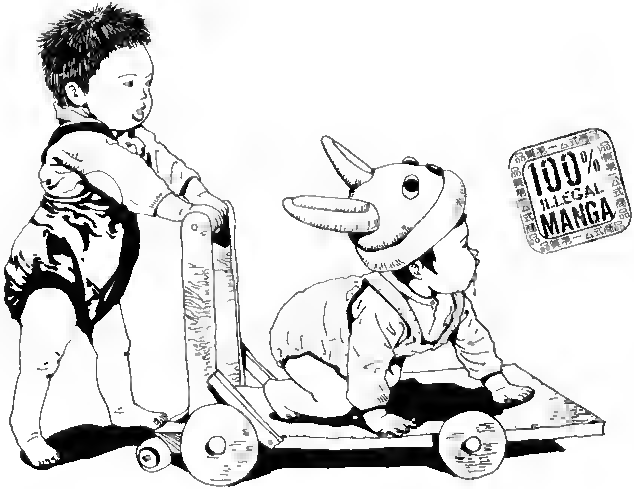
HMM.
URRR...
WHITE'S TREE
WHY?
WHY DON'T THE SEED SPROUT!?
'CAUSE I BEEN A BAD BOY?
I BEEN A GOOD BOY!
HEE HEE HEE
666
VROOM
FOOEY.
FOO, FOO...
FOOEY.
PFOOOOO.


I-I DON'T CARE.
I DON'T CARE NO MORE! HUMPH!
FWEEE
!!


WHITE—
I'M BACK.
HUH?
I GOT
YOUR HAT
AND WATCH
FOR YOU.
...
HYUUUUU


I TOLD HIM NOT TO GO ANYWHERE
HYUUUUUUU
HYUUUUUUU
MAYBE HE WENT BACK TO THE CAR
KRTCH

HYUUUUUU
虎
蛛



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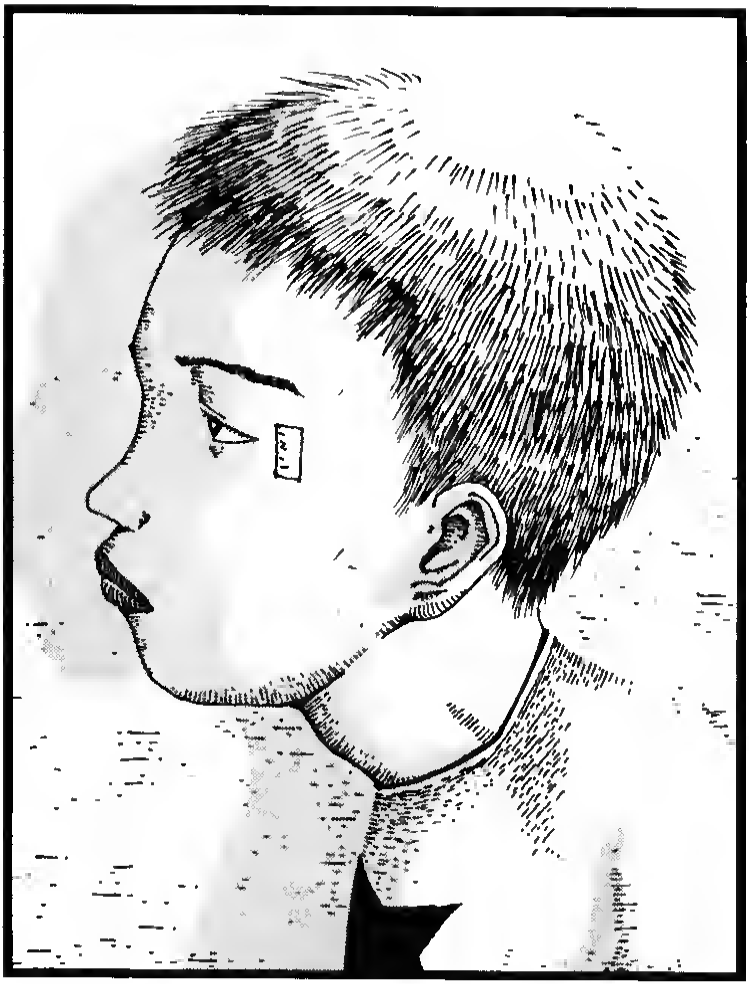
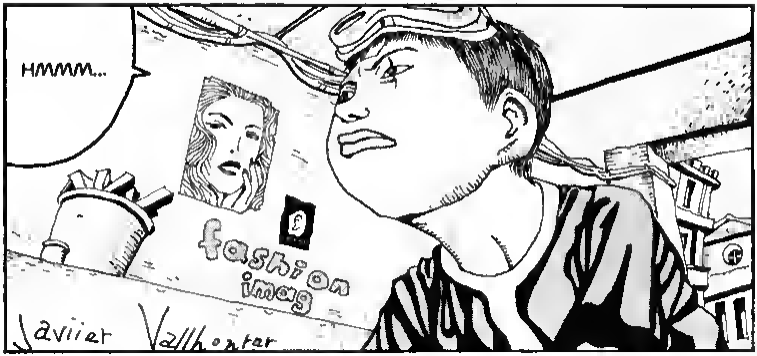
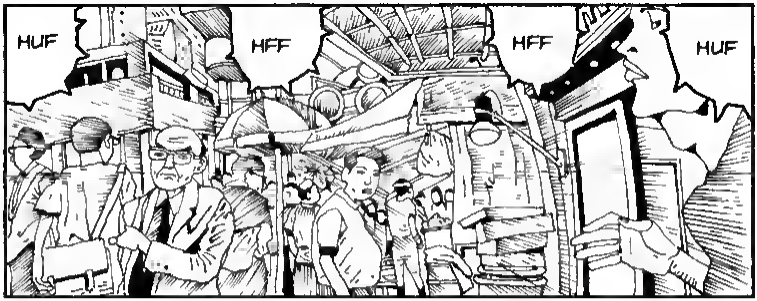
SKIRMISH 20
ARE WE ALL ALIVE?

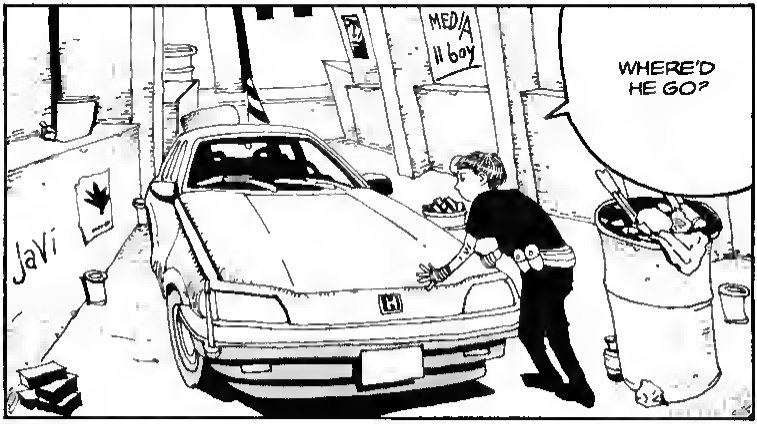


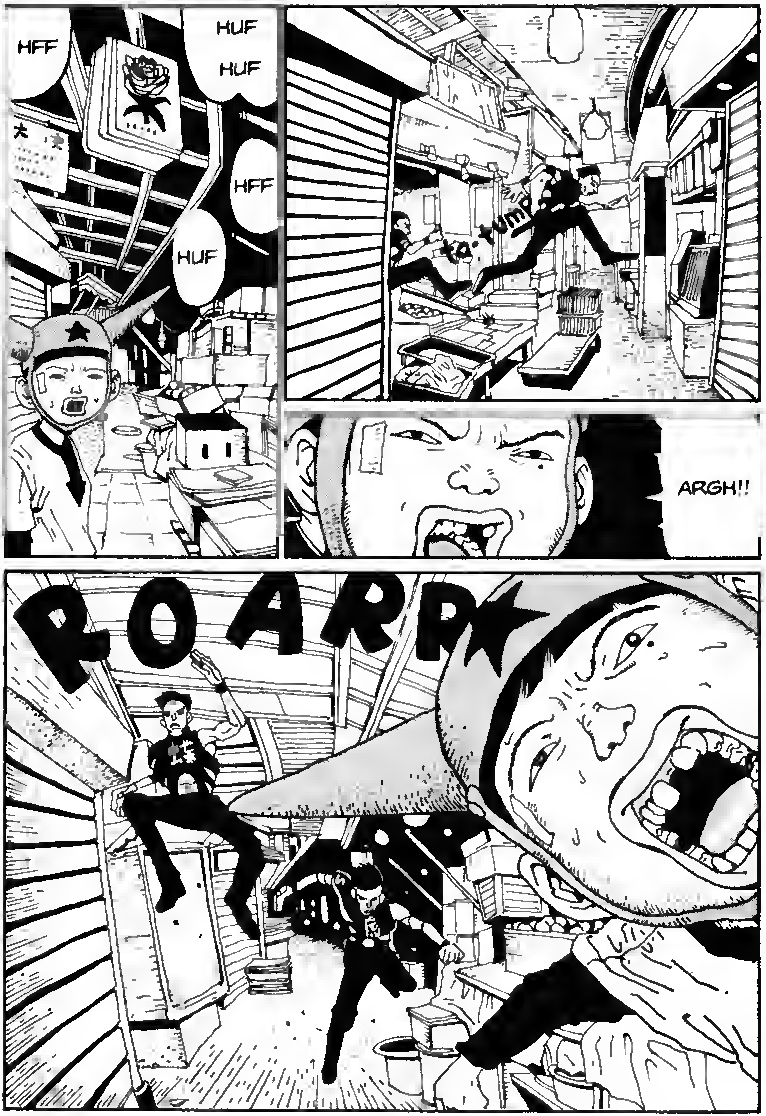
DO YOU LIKE WINTER?
HUH?
61
TONI MENEGUZZO
HYUUU
WINTER?
WINTER DOESN'T AGREE WITH ME. I FIND IT SUFFO-CATING.
HYUUUUUUUU

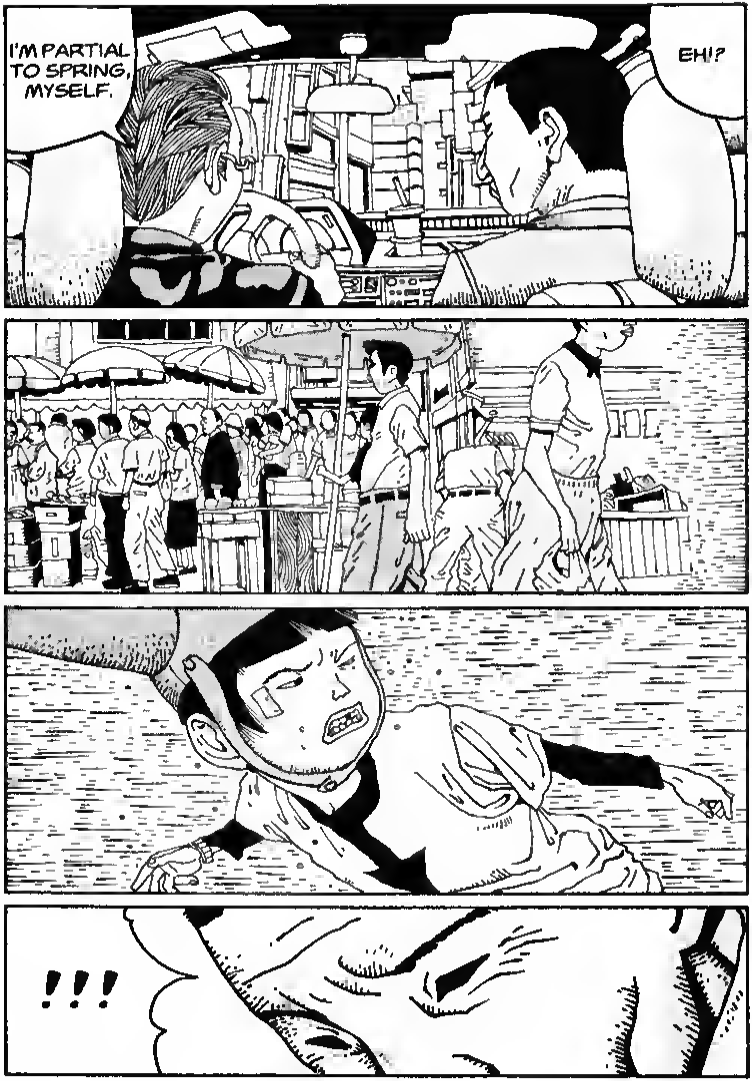
HAH! IT'S ALWAYS AN UNEXPECTED TREAT WHEN YOU GET SENTI-MENTAL.
POLICE
...
TMP
AT LEAST THIS PIT OF A CITY SEEMS A LITTLE CLEANER THIS TIME OF YEAR.
THAT'S JUST AN ILLUSION.
HYUU

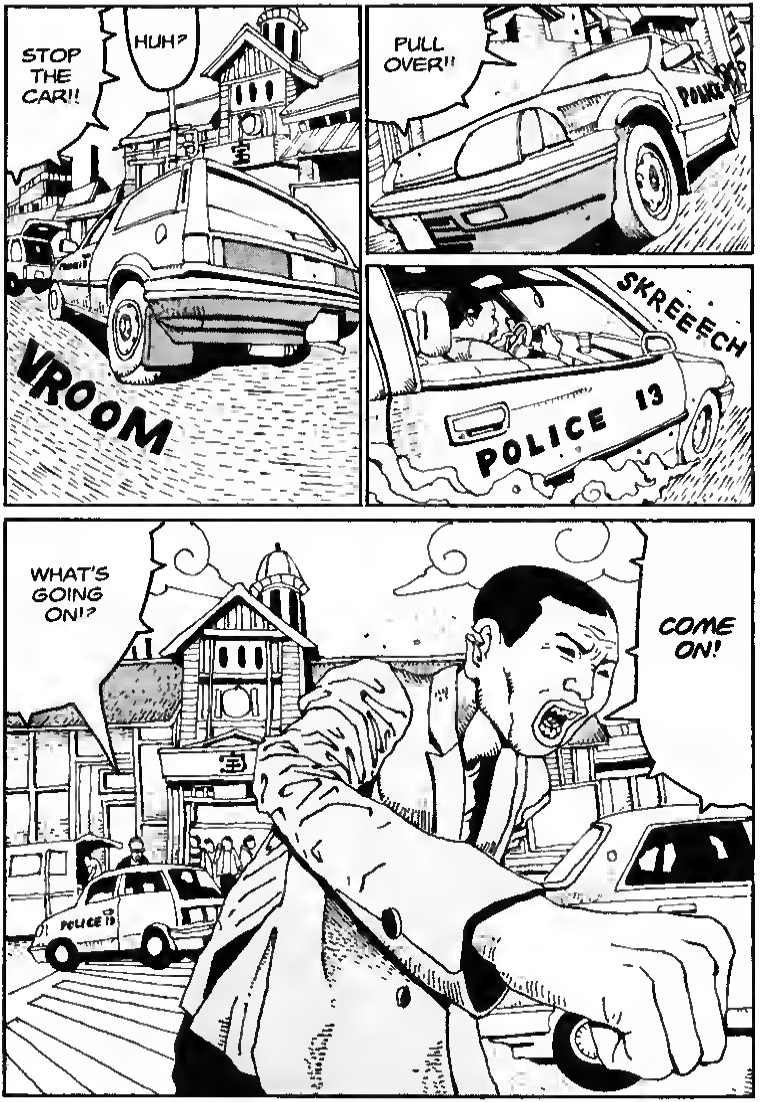

HMMM...
fashion
imag
Javier Vallhonrat


HUF
HFF
HFF
HUF

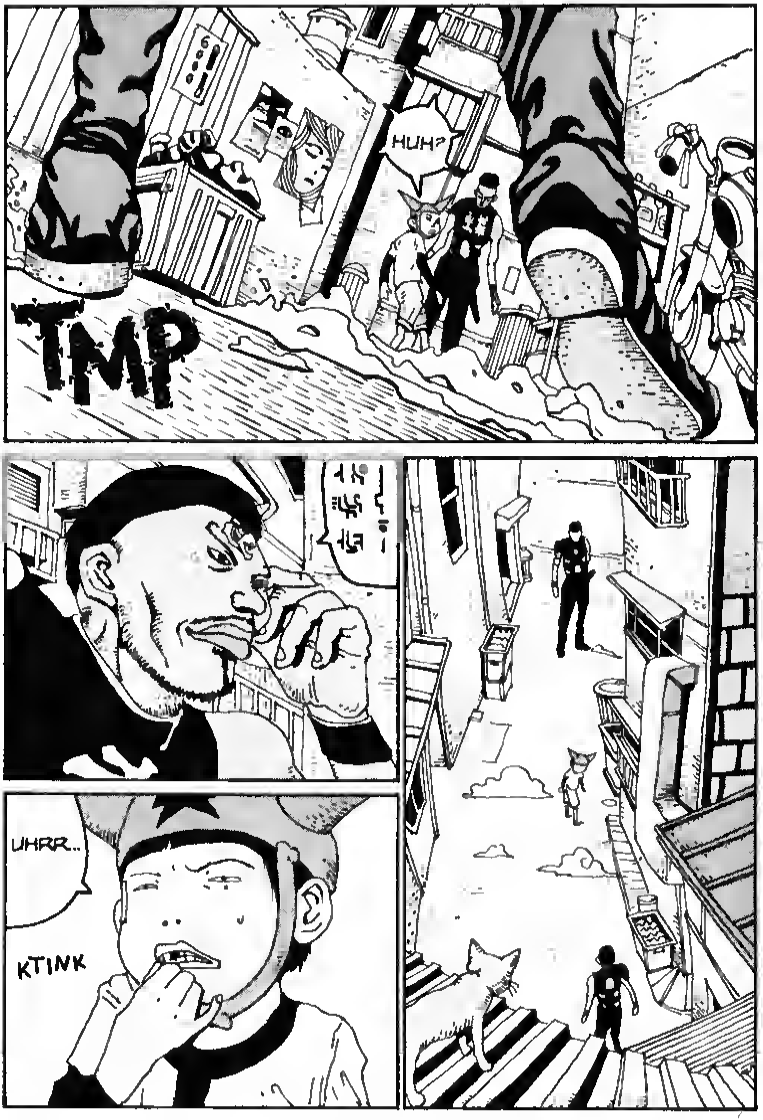

MEDIA
11 boy
WHERE'D HE GO?
JaVi

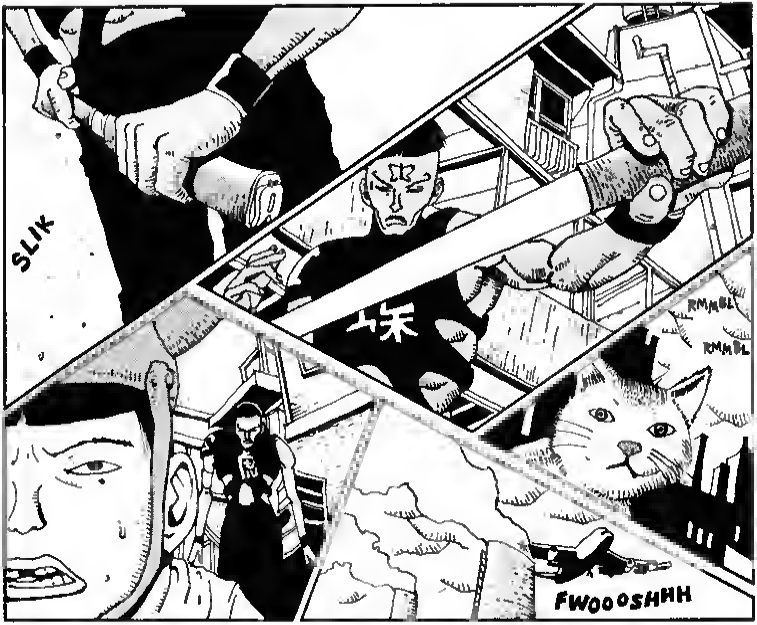

HFF
HUF
HUF
HFF
HUF
ARGH!!
ROAR

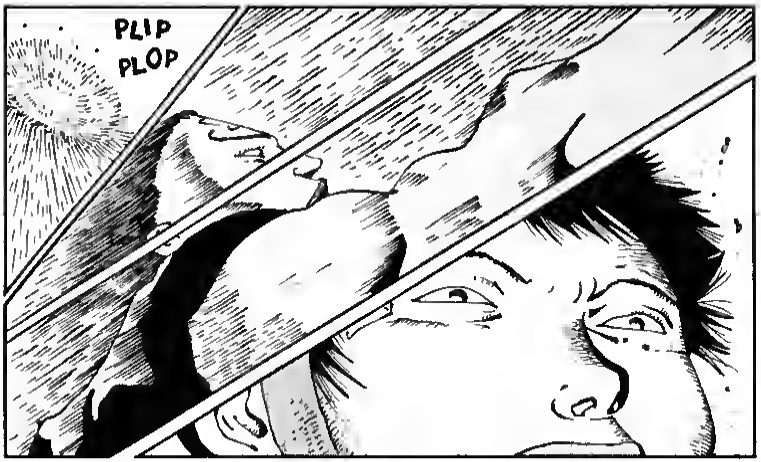

I'M PARTIAL TO SPRING, MYSELF.
EH!?
!!!

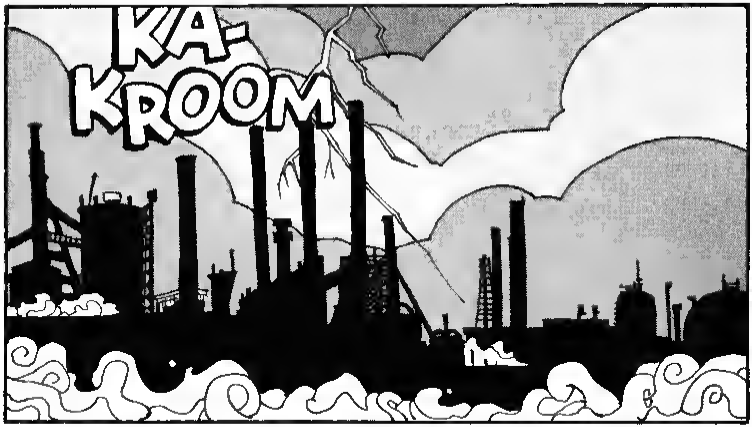

STOP THE CAR!!
HUH?
VROOM
PULL OVER!!
POLICE 13
SKREEECH
POLICE 13
WHAT'S GOING ON!?
COME ON!
POLICE 13

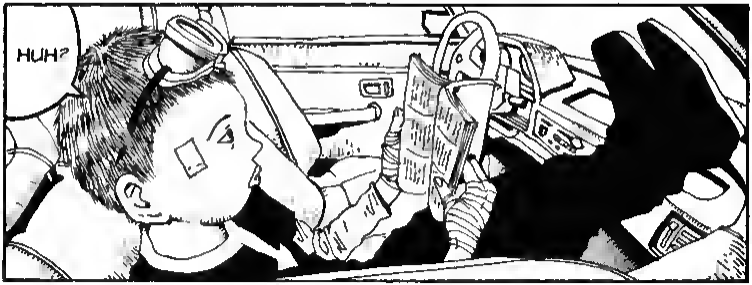
UNGH!
SKRRIIICHH
!!

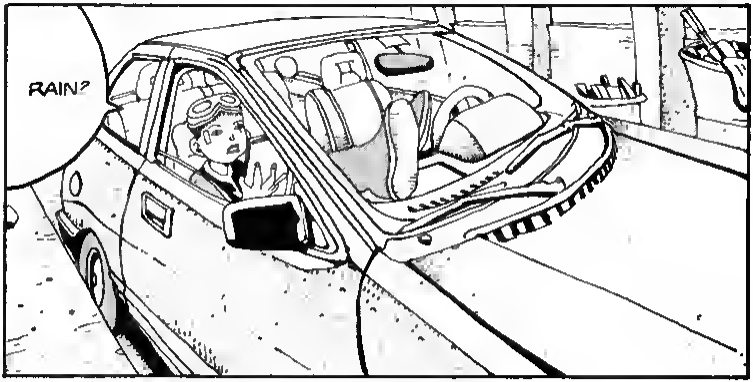

HUH?
TMP
UHRR...
KTINK

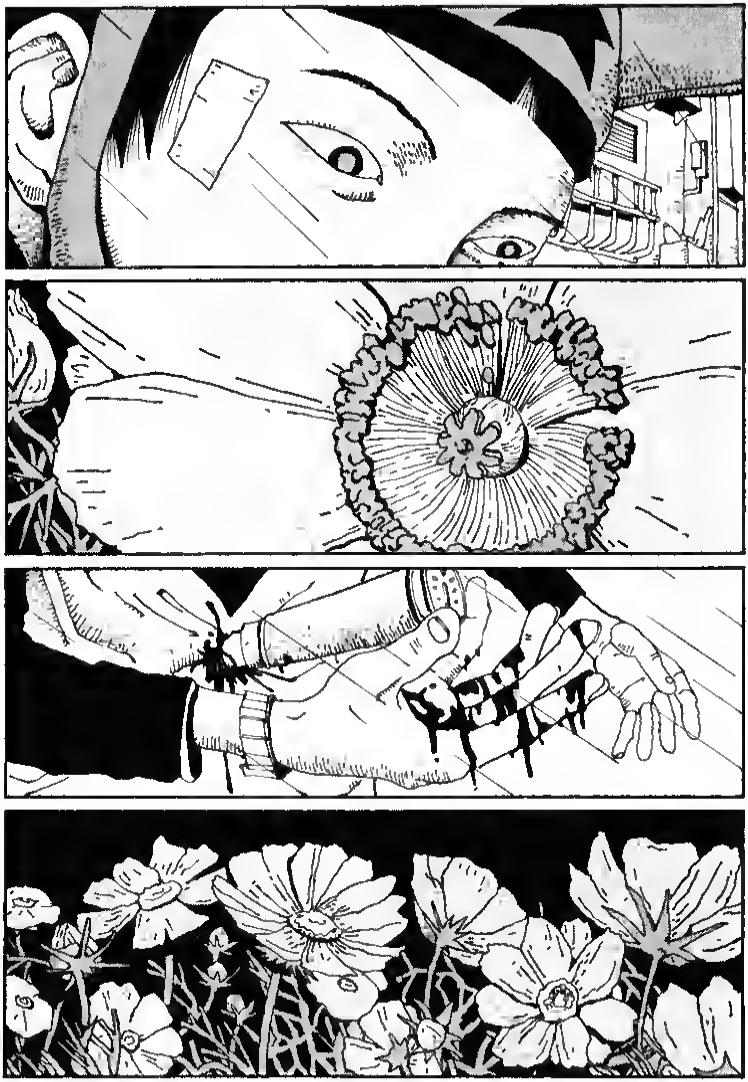

SLIK
RMMBL
RMMBL
FWOOOSHHH

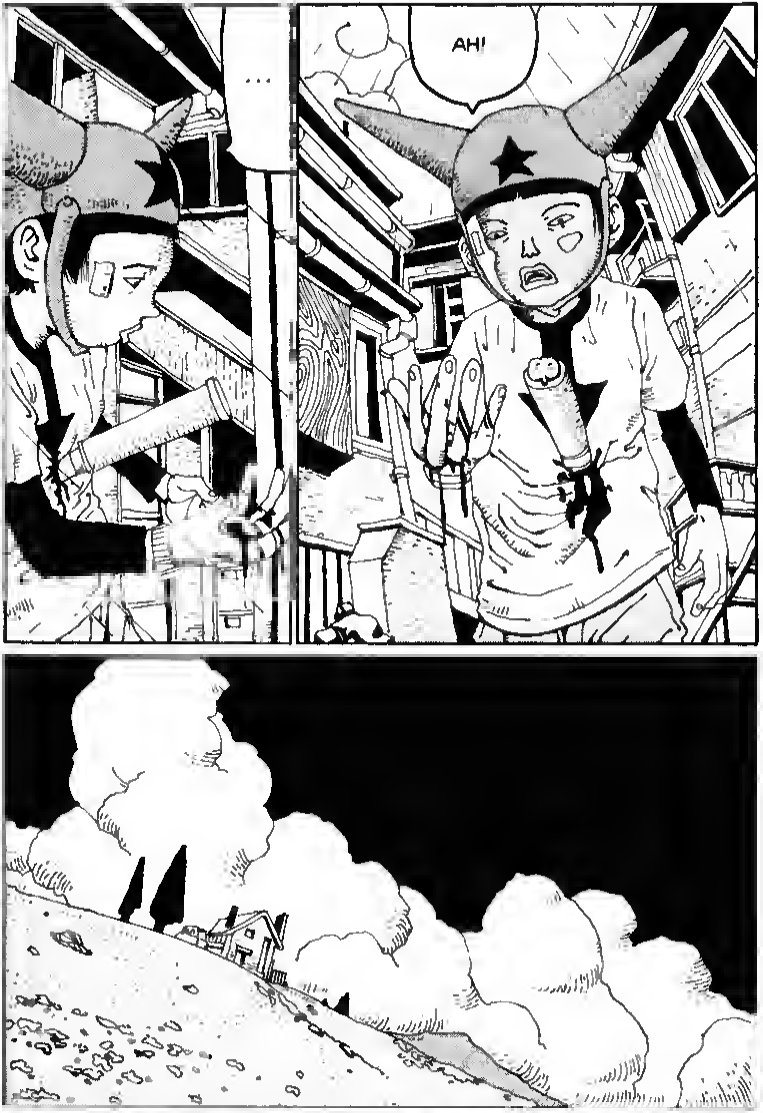

PLIP
PLOP


KA-
KROOM


HUH?


RAIN?




...
AH!

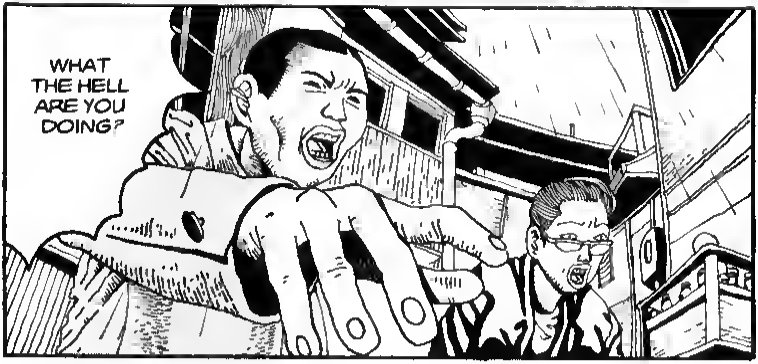
AIEEEE!

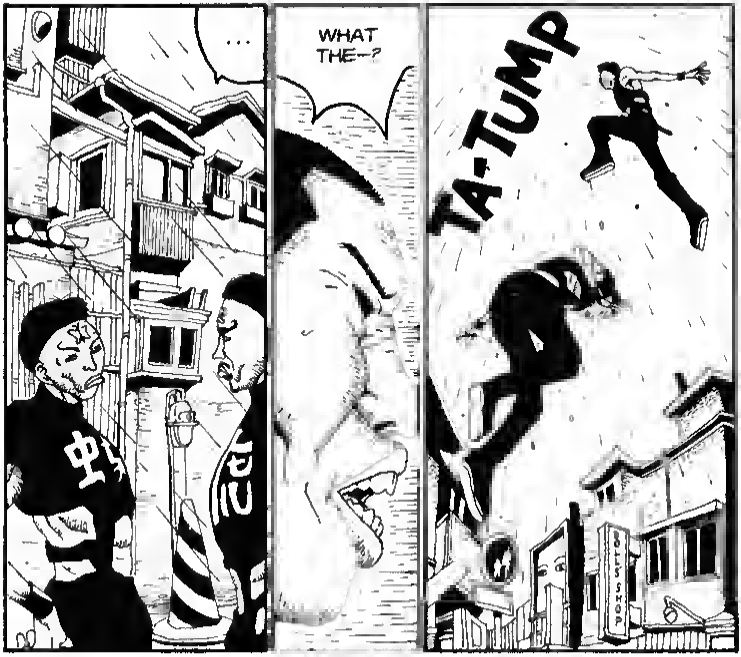
YAAGGH

HA
!!!

AAAAAAHHHH

STOP IT!
虎

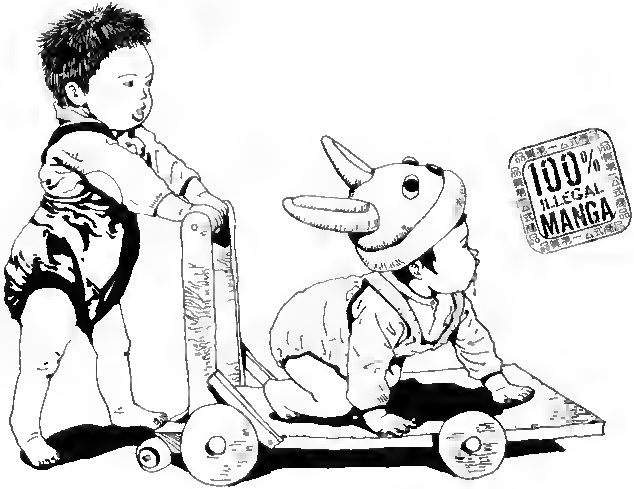

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?


...
WHAT THE--?
TA-TUMP

AEEE!
HEY! THE LITTLE GUY'S IN BAD SHAPE!!

TH-THEY...
DON'T MOVE, WHITE. WE'LL CALL AN AMBULANCE.
ARRGH!
HEY!
TMP
YOU'LL BLEED TO DEATH!!
...FLEW!
HYUUU

HUF HFF HUF
GOTTA GET BACK..
BLACK MUST BE WORRIED 'BOUT ME...
BLACK MUST BE...
WHUR
WOR



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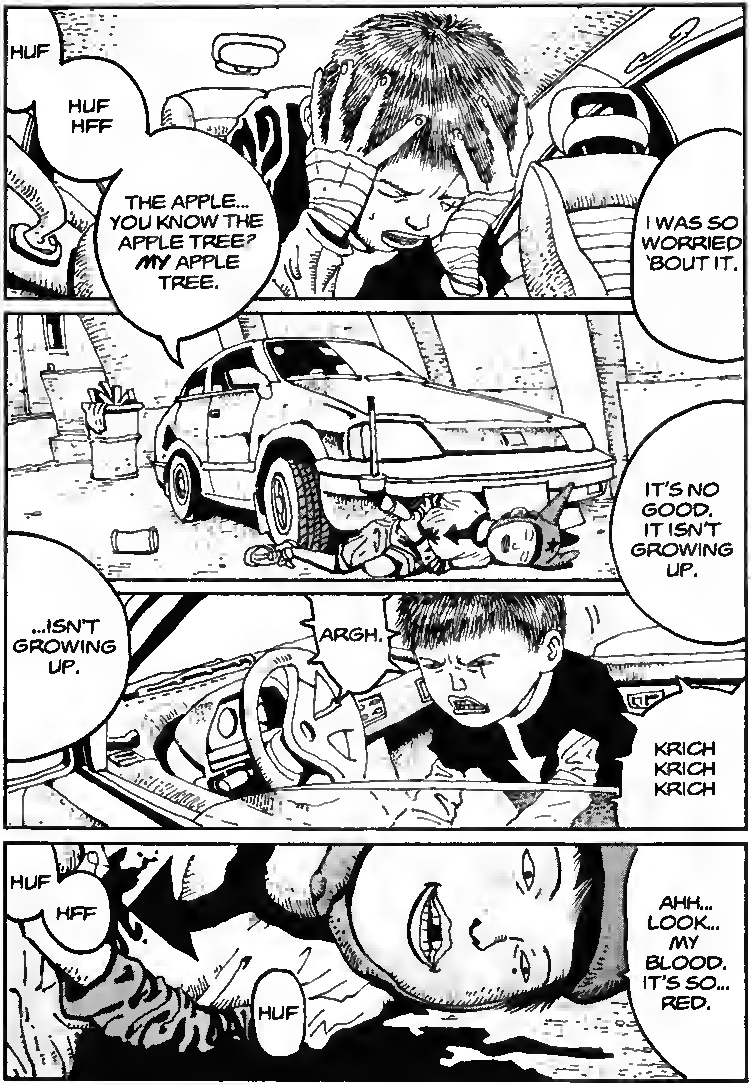
SKIRMISH 21

HEARTBEAT, HARMONY, ESCAPE, AFTERIMAGE, FRIENDSHIP, AND RECURRENCE

IT STOPPED... RAINING...
EH!?
IT STOPPED... RAINING... TEE HEE...
HUF
HUF
HFF
HEY, WHITE.
I WAS WORRIED ABOUT YOU. WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?

I'M GLAD IT STOPPED... I AM...
I REALLY AM...
THE R-RAIN IS... SO COLD... SO DARK... THAT'S HOW COME...
...I DON'T LIKE IT.
KREK
WHUMP


HUF
HUF
HFF
THE APPLE... YOU KNOW THE APPLE TREE? MY APPLE TREE.
I WAS SO WORRIED 'BOUT IT.
IT'S NO GOOD. IT ISN'T GROWING UP.
...ISN'T GROWING UP.
ARGH.
KRICH KRICH KRICH
HUF
HFF
HUF
AHH... LOOK... MY BLOOD. IT'S SO... RED.

I CAN'T SEE TOO GOOD.
HUF
HFF
HUF
FISHIES FLYIN' IN THE AIR
CHAK
AM I GONNA DIE?
HEY, BLACK... D'YOU THINK I'M GONNA DIE?
ONE DOESN'T DIE...
...SO EASILY.

A HOSPITAL?
YES
스즈키
THEY MUST HAVE GONE TO A HOSPITAL.
DO YOU KNOW HOW MANY HOSPITALS THERE ARE IN THIS DISTRICT_? OVER FIFTY!
WHITE WAS SEVERELY STABBED.
WE HAVE TO SAVE HIM.
WHAT FLOOR, SIR?
LEAVE THIS MATTER TO THE JUVENILE DIVISION.
THIS IS OUT OF YOUR JURISDICTION.
THIRD FLOOR.

WHITE WASN'T STUCK BY SOME AMATEUR. THAT GUY WAS HIRED.
I HEAR SUZUKI'S LEAVING HIS SYNDICATE.
THIRD FLOOR.
NO SMOKING
THE RAT?
WHAT!?
NOT GETTING ALONG WITH HIS BOSSES, APPARENTLY.
DIDN'T YOU HEAR?
WHY WOULD HE...
...LEAVE?
DING
3
13
CHASING CATS IS FINE, BUT DON'T FORGET ABOUT THE RAT, FUJIMURA.
PATT

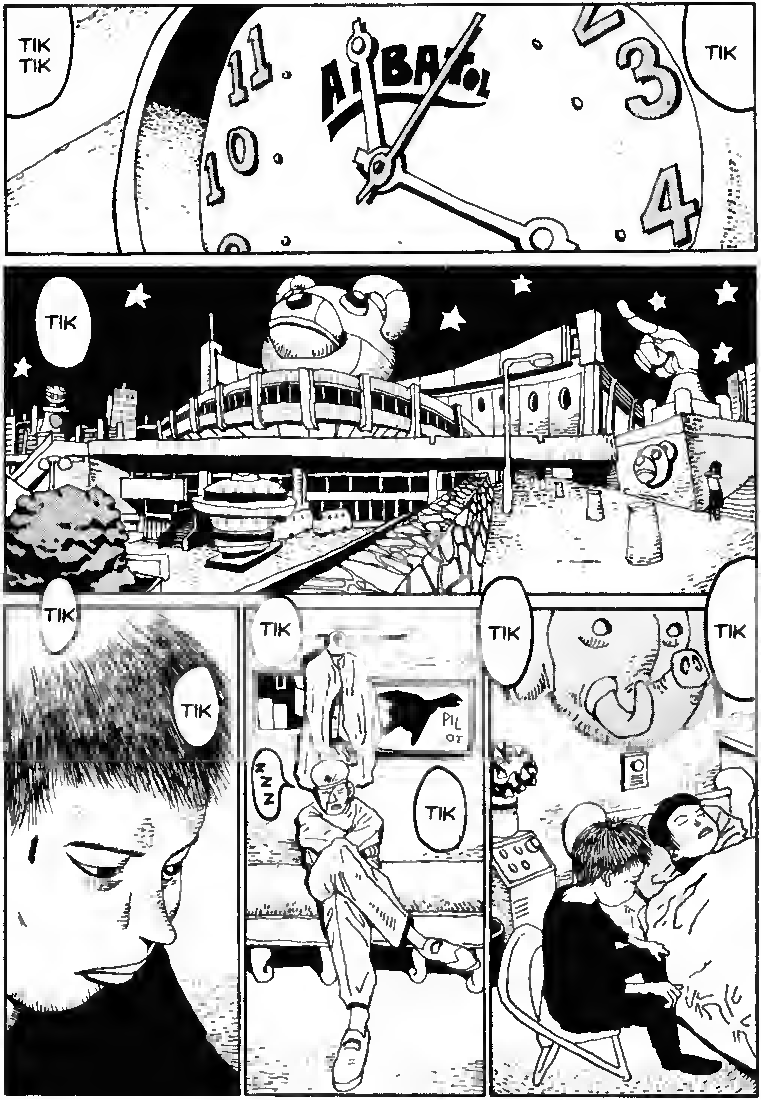
VROOM
69304
THE NEXT TWO OR THREE DAYS ARE CRITICAL.
I DID MY BEST... BUT HE LOST A LOT OF BLOOD.
HOURS
9:30AM ~ 12:00
8:00PM ~ 10:00
IF YOU'D COME AN HOUR LATER, HE WOULD HAVE BEEN A GONER FOR SURE.
THANK YOU, FUKUSUKE.

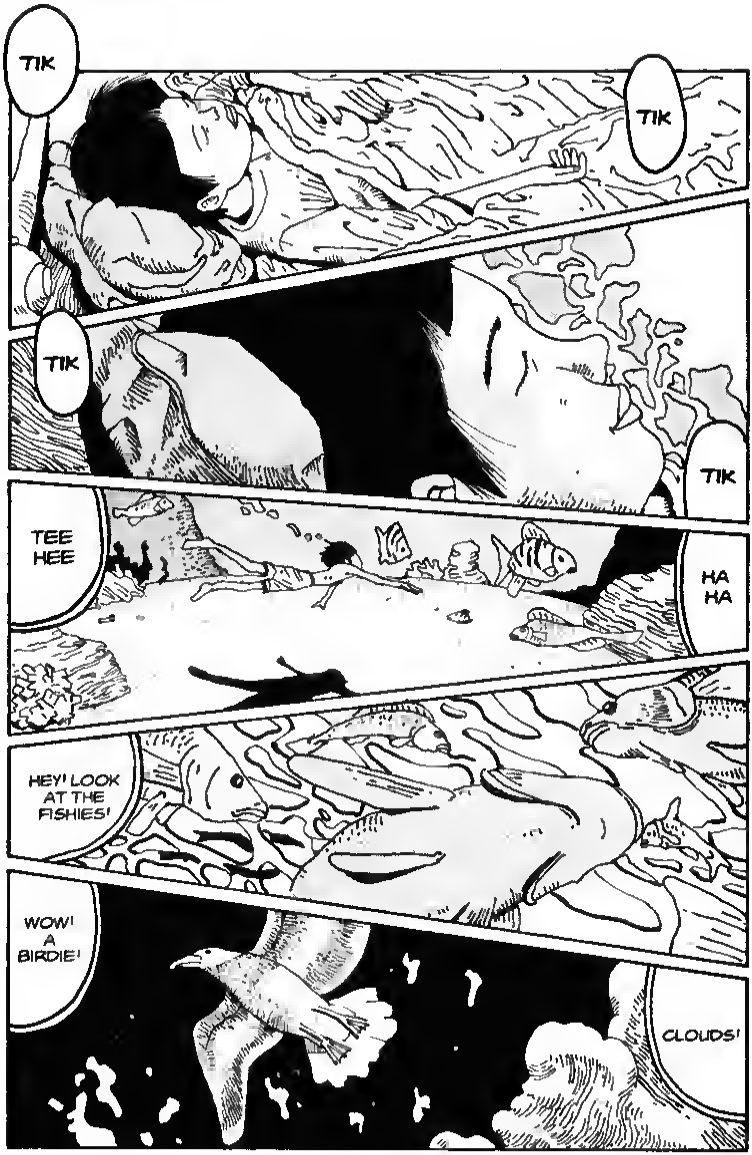
I TOOK OUT THIS KID'S APPENDIX TWO YEARS AGO AND NOW HE COMES BACK WITH A KNIFE STUCK IN HIS ABDOMEN...
WHERE'S BLACK?
AHH...
HE'S KEEPING WATCH OVER WHITE.
I TOLD HIM IT WON'T MAKE ANY DIFFERENCE.
BUT HE WON'T LEAVE HIS SIDE.
NO VISITORS ALLOWED
EXCUSE ME FOR BEING SO BLUNT, GENROKU, BUT...
WHAT THE HELL ARE THOSE KIDS MIXED UP IN?

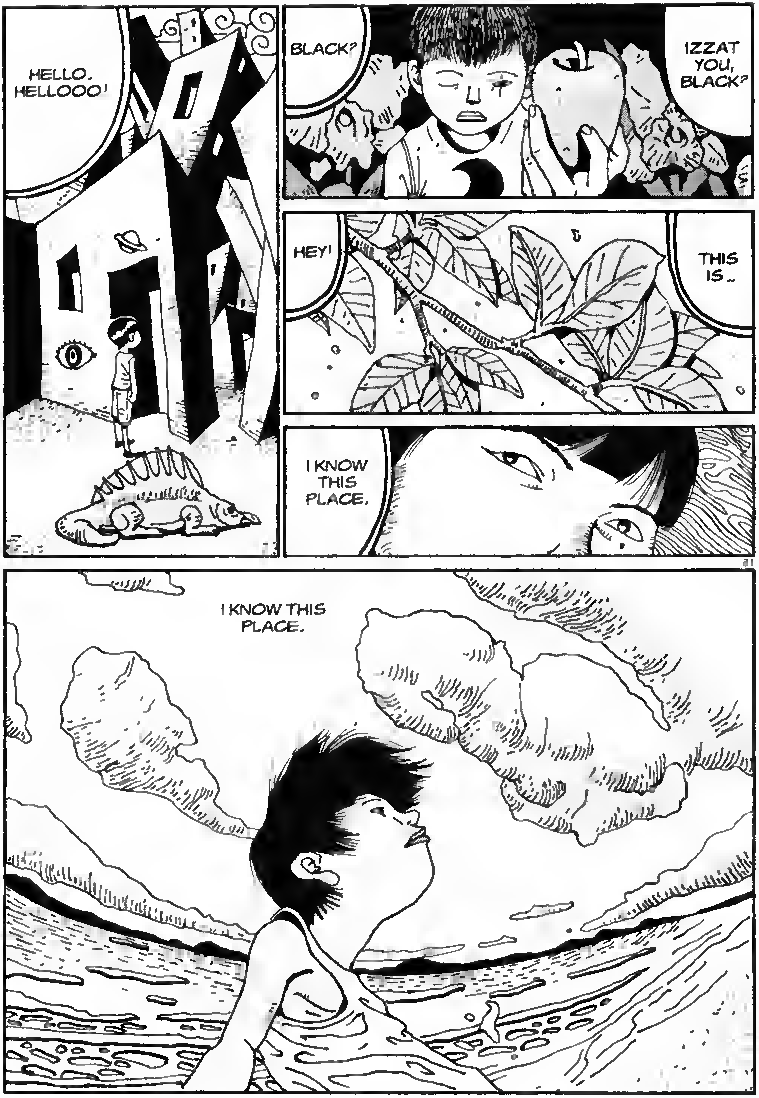
BLACK HASN'T SAID A THING NOT A SINGLE WORD.
HE WON'T EAT..
HE JUST SITS THERE.
BEEN THAT WAY SINCE THEY SHOWED UP.
HE APPEARS TO BE IN AN EXTREME STATE OF SHOCK.
WRONG.
YOU HAVE NO IDEA HOW ATTACHED BLACK IS TO WHITE.
IF WHITE DIES, SO DOES BLACK
ZZZ...

HUH? I DON'T GET IT.
Yldlpo
I DON'T KNOW WHAT ALL THEY'RE MIXED UP IN EITHER..
BUT BLACK HAS ALREADY LOST ALL FAITH IN THE LIVING.
HIS ONLY PURPOSE IN LIFE IS TO PROTECT WHITE.
IF WHITE DIES, HE'LL HAVE NO REASON TO GO ON.
BLACK ISN'T IN SHOCK.
IN SITUATIONS LIKE THIS, IT'S DISTURBING HOW CALM HE GETS.

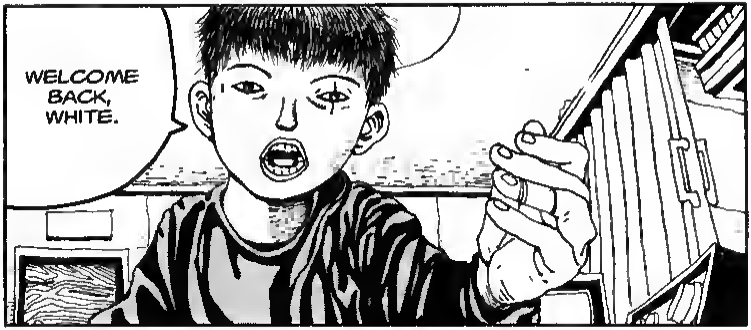
WC

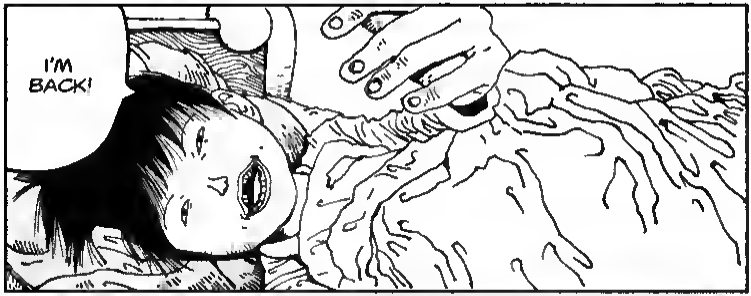

TIK
TIK
TIK
TIK
TIK
TIK
TIK
TIK
TIK
TIK
ZZZ

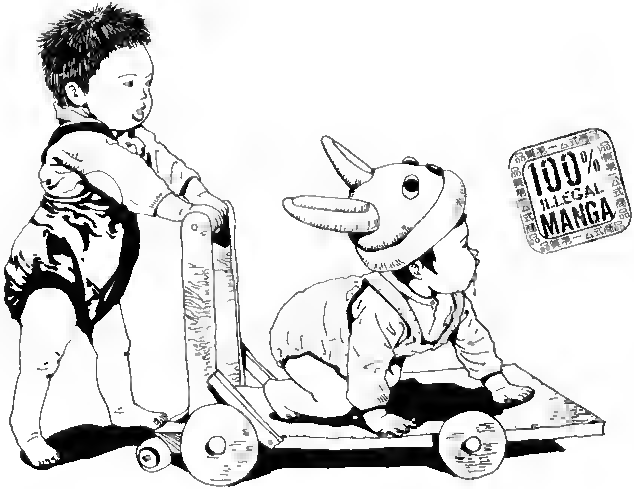

TIK
TIK
TIK
TIK
TEE HEE
HA HA
HEY! LOOK AT THE FISHIES!
WOW! A BIRDIE!
CLOUDS!


HELLO. HELLOOO!
BLACK?
IZZAT YOU, BLACK?
HEY!
THIS IS...
I KNOW THIS PLACE.
I KNOW THIS PLACE.

HUH?
WHA—? WHERE? HERE? WHAT? HERE?
BLACK! WHERE'S BLACK? BLACK...
UNH...


WELCOME BACK, WHITE.


I'M BACK!



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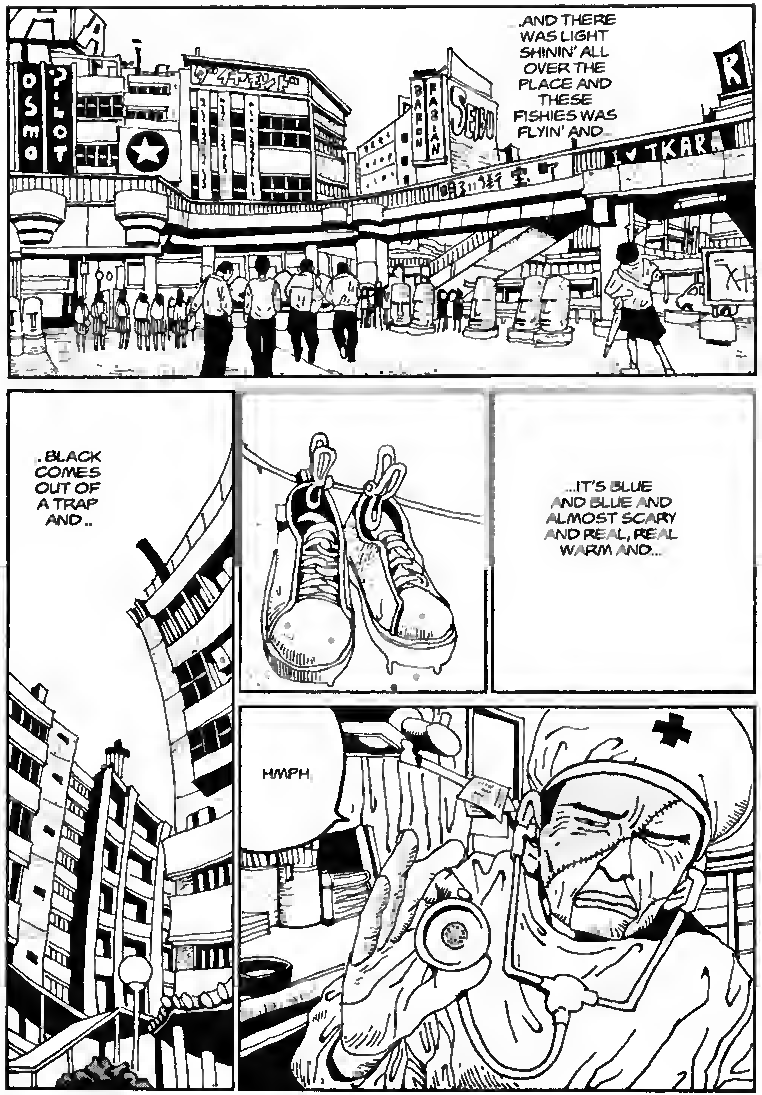
SKIRMISH 22

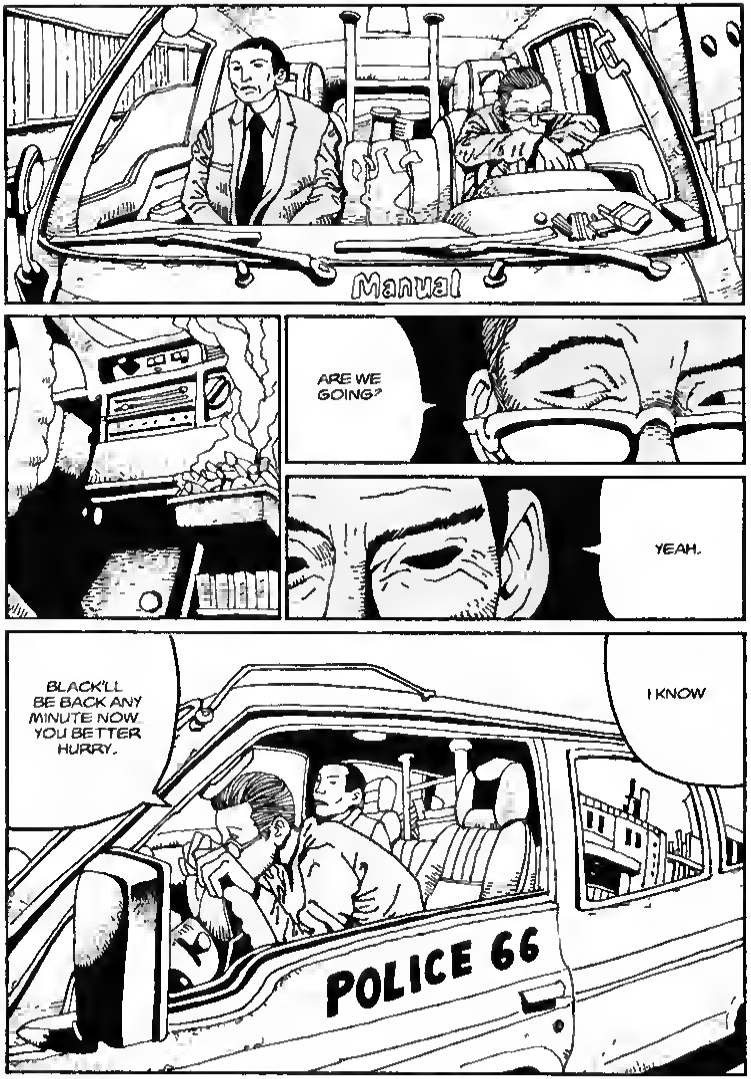
BLACK CRIES

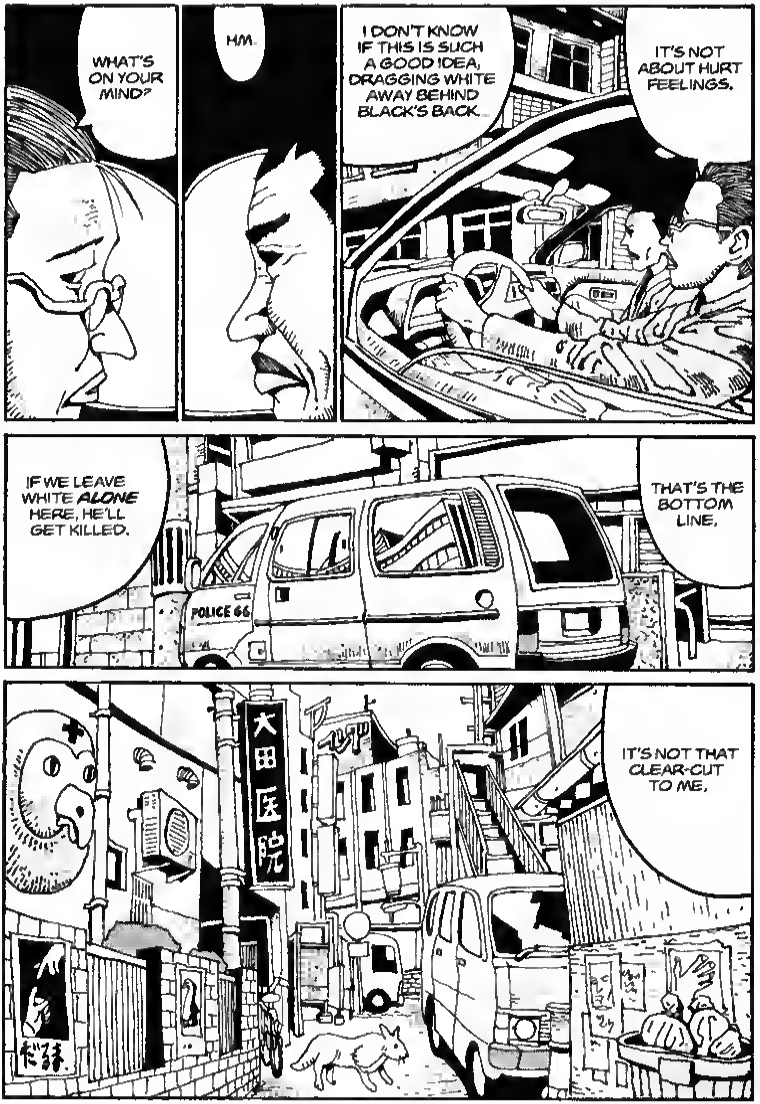

...AND THERE WAS LIGHT SHININ' ALL OVER THE PLACE AND THESE FISHIES WAS FLYIN' AND...
OSMO
PARLOR
I ♥ TKARA
...BLACK COMES OUT OF A TRAP AND..
...IT'S BLUE AND BLUE AND ALMOST SCARY AND REAL, REAL WARM AND...
HMPH

I HAVEN'T THE FAINTEST WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT, BUT I MUST SAY, YOUR RECOVERY IS PHENOMENAL! HMM.
DREAM!
I'M TALKIN' 'BOUT MY DREAM.
WEIRD...
IT WAS REALLY WEIRD
I KNOW THAT PLACE...
BUT I NEVER BEEN OUT OF THE CITY
WHAT'S BLACK UP TO?
BLACK?

BLACK'S WALKIN' AROUND OUTSIDE SEZ HE HATES THE SMELLY SMELL OF HOSPITALS.
TAK
A MAN NAMED NOAH AND HIS FAMILY BUILT A SHIP 150 CUBITS LONG.
HE MADE THE VESSEL OF CYPRESS AND PINE.
AND SEALED IT WITH TAR.
IT MAY NOT HAVE BEEN THE PRETTIEST SIGHT, BUT IT WAS UNSINKABLE.

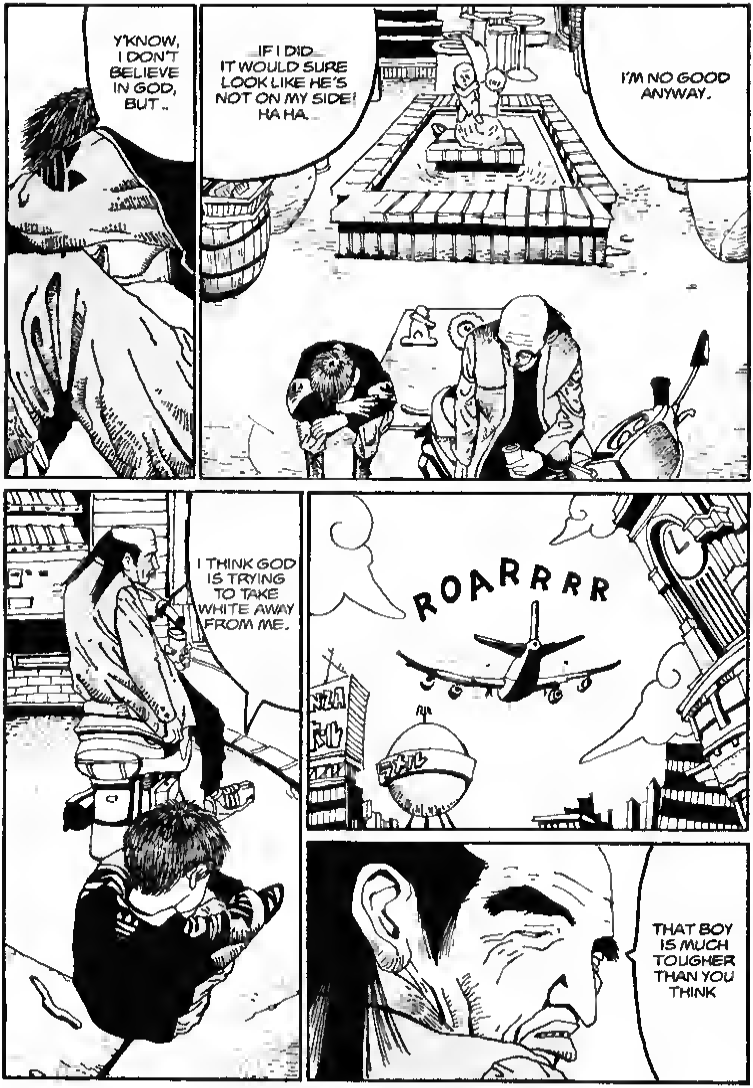
YOU BEAT AROUND THE BUSH TOO MUCH.
adidas
ALL I'M TRYING TO SAY IS THAT...
...THOSE WHO BELIEVE ARE SAVED, BLACK.
HA!
YEAH, RIGHT. WELL, I DON'T BELIEVE THAT STORY.
96 coffee
HMPH.
WELL, THAT'S A BELIEF.
SEVEN


Manual
ARE WE GOING?
YEAH.
BLACK'LL BE BACK ANY MINUTE NOW. YOU BETTER HURRY.
I KNOW
POLICE 66


WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?
HM.
I DON'T KNOW IF THIS IS SUCH A GOOD IDEA, DRAGGING WHITE AWAY BEHIND BLACK'S BACK.
IT'S NOT ABOUT HURT FEELINGS.
IF WE LEAVE WHITE ALONE HERE, HE'LL GET KILLED.
POLICE 66
THAT'S THE BOTTOM LINE.
大田医院
IT'S NOT THAT CLEAR-CUT TO ME.

HOW'S WHITE DOING?
ROARRR
HE'S FINE.
THE DOCTOR SAYS HIS RECOVERY IS PHENOMENAL ...
THAT'S GOOD TO HEAR.
HNNH...
I'M TIRED, OLD MAN.
THIS REALLY DID ME IN.
UH-HUH...

WHITE JUST TALKS NONSENSE. I DON'T UNDERSTAND HIM ANYMORE
EVERYTHING HE SAYS IS JUST MUMBO-JUMBO TO ME.
I DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH LONGER I CAN PROTECT HIM.
I TOLD YOU BEFORE. YOU CAN'T PROTECT HIM.
THIS CITY ISN'T RIGHT FOR WHITE.
CHUD
IT'S ROOM NUMBER FOUR.


Y'KNOW, I DON'T BELIEVE IN GOD, BUT..
IF I DID IT WOULD SURE LOOK LIKE HE'S NOT ON MY SIDE! HA HA..
I'M NO GOOD ANYWAY.
I THINK GOD IS TRYING TO TAKE WHITE AWAY FROM ME.
ROARRRR
THAT BOY IS MUCH TOUGHER THAN YOU THINK

...
TO MY MIND, WHITE IS THE ONE WHO'S BEEN PROTECTING YOU.
IN ANY CASE, I'VE GOT FAITH IN YOU, BLACK
AND YOU'RE NOT AS TOUGH AS YOU THINK
EVEN IF EVERYONE TURNS AGAINST YOU, EVEN IF GOD LOOKS THE OTHER WAY...
I'LL STILL BELIEVE IN YOU. YOU'LL BE ALL RIGHT

NOOO!
13
AIEEE!
WHO ARE YOU!?
THE TREASURE TOWN PD HAS CUSTODY OF THIS BOY.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN!? HE'S MY PATIENT.
THIS IS AN EMERGENCY

AIEEE!
STOP IT! HIS WOUND HASN'T HEALED YET!!
EH!?
28

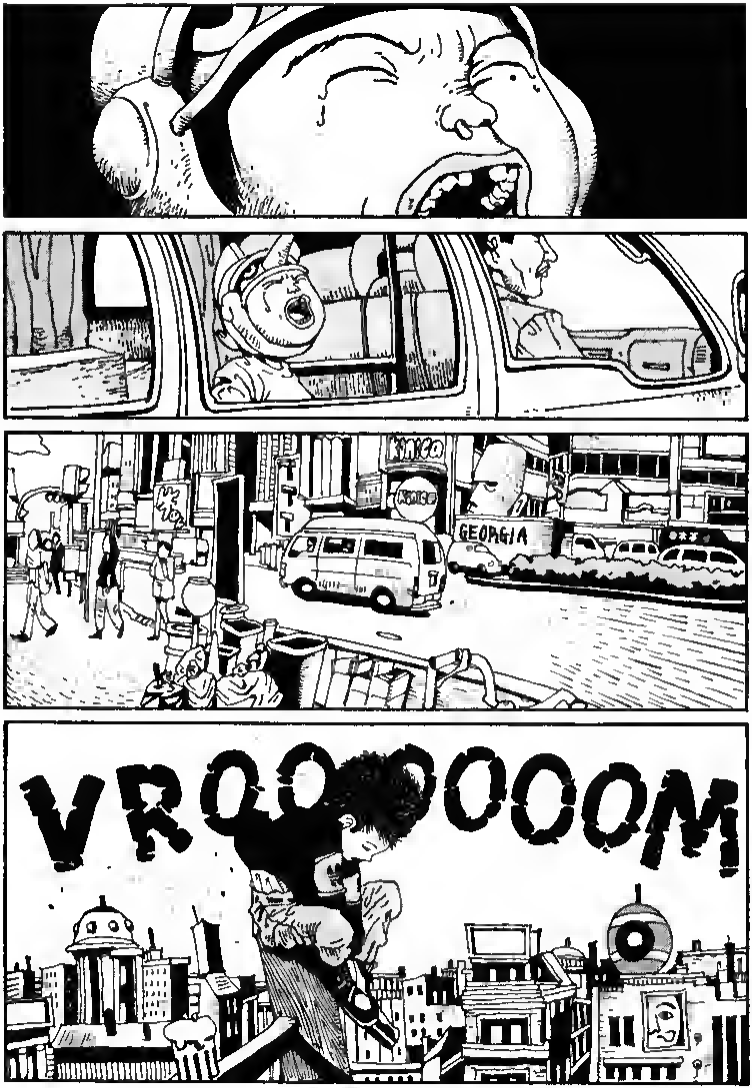
WHA-!?
KAWWW
HEY!

VROOM
SHOULD I SCARE HIM OFF?
NO.
NO NEED TO.
BLACK...?
VRO
OM

DON'T WORRY ABOUT WHITE.
YOU, OF ALL PEOPLE, KNOW HOW DANGEROUS THIS CITY IS!!
66
RIGHT, BLACK!?
WHITE'S ALWAYS CRAMPED MY STYLE.
VROO
OOMM
TAKE HIM AWAY.
HM.
WHAT!?

WHADDYA MEAN I CRAMP YOUR STYLE!?
LIAR, LIAR, PANTS ON...
医院
VRROOOM
'CAUSE I SAW A DREAM, AND IT WAS ALL REALLY REALLY GREEN AND GREEN AND BLACK WAS IN IT AND..
I'M SICK OF ALL YOUR MUMBO-JUMBO
I'M GONNA FIND A STRONGER PARTNER.
W-WHAT..!?

HEY! WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU TALKIN' ABOUT!?
YOU'RE COMING WITH US, WHITE.
WHADDYA MEAN, ANOTHER PARTNER!?
POLICE 66
COKE
THERE'S NO ONE ELSE BUT WHITE!
SAY SOMETHING, BLACK! COME ON!
...
DON'T WANNA GO! NO!
YOU'RE A LIAR, BLACK!
BLAACK!!



To be continued

ABOUT THE ARTIST

TAIYO MATSUMOTO

DATE OF BIRTH : 1967
BIRTHPLACE : Tokyo Japan
PROFESSIONAL DEBUT : 1986

Matsumoto made his mange debut in 1986 in the megazine ***Comic Afternoon*** with the short story ***Straight*** At the tender age of 22, he traveled throughout France to perform artistic research Heavily influenced by the French comics he studied there, his art style subsequently changed dramatically to the unique, alternative look evident in ***Black & White***

In 1991 Matsumoto began a boxing serial entitled ***Zero*** which appeared in ***Big Comic Spirits*** His next series entitled ***Hanao*** explored the relationship between a middle-aged man and his son In 1993, Matsumoto began ***Black & White*** ("Tekkonkinkurito" in the original Japanese, a play on words meaning "a concrete structure with an iron frame")

Q. What made you decide to become a professional comic book artist?

Matsumoto I loved ***Domu*** by **Katsuhiro Otomo** so much that it made me want to become a comic creator myself

Q. If you hadn't become a comic artist, what profession would you have chosen?

Matsumoto I would have wanted to be a children's book illustrator

Q. What are your current interests & hobbies?

Matsumoto Driving, computer games and taking walks

Q. What's your plan for your next title?

Matsumoto I'd like to drew a mange about a young boy who meets a monster The story would follow their relationship from beginning to end

Q. Name your three favorite American comic artists.

Matsumoto I like all of **Frank Miller's** work I don't know much more about American comics But I like Snoopy

Q. What do you think of the American comics industry?

Matsumoto American comics are powerful and cool European comics seem very intellectual And Japanese comics are very light hearted If you could combine the best of all three, you could create some really tremendous work That's my goal

Q. What message do you have for your American readers?

Matsumoto I don't know much about American comics I only know the very famous superheroes, like the X-Men I would appreciate it if you would write to me and recommend some American comics

[Please address any mail to Mr Matsumoto c/o PULP, Viz Comics, P.O Box 77010, San Francisco, CA 94107]